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Central Voice
LOCAL GIFT GUIDE

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Gift Ideas: A gift certificate in an amount you choose valid for any of their services, including dry cleaning, shirt laundry, wash, dry and fold laundry, professional repairs and alterations, shoe repair, wedding gown preservation,

continued on page 31

John "Ski" Sygielski

HACC: *Poised to Lead*

By Frank Pizzoli

If Thaddeus Stevens, 1834 champion of Pennsylvania's educational system, and Harrisburg Area Community College president John "Ski" Sygielski had coffee they'd talk about how education lifts all.

"HACC is the Ellis Island of advancement, the on ramp" to a fulfilling life says Dr. Ski, as his staff calls him. He's a Cleveland, Ohio native and the only member of his working-class family to graduate from college. He's earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy, two master's degrees and a doctorate.

Dr. Ski talked with *Central Voice* about diversity, a multi-faceted word for him.

Diversity at HACC touches all aspects of campus life.

In learning styles, the community college has cultivated a diverse educational environment that includes "blended learning," a mix of online and face-to-face instruction. For the Spring 2013 term, HACC is offering seven blended courses. Overall, blended courses can include a variety of course topics. Although HACC does not yet offer a full Associate Degree online, "We will be offering full degree programs fully online very soon," Dr. Ski explains.

"HACC is the Ellis Island of advancement..."

HACC employs 328 full-time faculty, 975 adjunct faculty. Another 26 educators work as virtual full-time faculty, 42 work as virtual adjunct faculty. In addition, there are 66 full-time faculty who teach at least one course for the Virtual Campus.

A Virtual Campus is the newest addition to the state's oldest community college, slated for a 50th anniversary in 2014. By January 2013, 22,595 students are expected to enroll at campus sites in Harrisburg, Gettysburg, Lancaster, York, Lebanon, and the Virtual Campus. The VC is growing fast. "Students have more than one job while

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Study of Children of Same-Sex Relationships Flawed pg 23

Rev. Terry Karanen Relects on Spiritual Community pg 22

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Political Update

Why No Gays in Ads?

Hoping to reverse a 32-state losing streak, gay marriage initiatives are on the ballot in Maine, Maryland, Minnesota and Washington. Beyond those, according to the Human Rights Campaign, 37 states prohibit gay marriage while six and the District of Columbia permit it. Gay activists and their allies are hoping that any wins in November would throw new momentum their way at a time when polls nationwide have shown growing acceptance for gay marriage.

Six of the seven ads broadcast in the contested states this year have featured only straight people talking about the issue. What's missing? Gay people speaking for themselves. On one side, Wayne Besen, director of Vermont-based gay rights group "Truth Wins Out," says, "If we don't show ourselves, people aren't going to get comfortable with who we are."

Others counsel deference given the complexities of public messaging, pointing out that the ads are designed to speak to the fears and values of the heterosexual majority, whose vote will decide the issue. "The moderate tough guys we need to flip to win a couple of these races are still the ones who say that gays are gross," said Andy Szekeres, a Denver-based fundraising consultant who has worked on several state campaigns and had access to focus group data. "Pushing people to an uncomfortable place, it's something you can't do in a TV ad," said Szekeres, who is gay.

Black Clergy Back Marriage Equality

Prominent black clergy have urged Maryland voters to support the state's same-sex marriage law on the ballot in the November as a referendum. "As pastors and clergy leaders, we are here today to declare our unequivocal support for Maryland's Civil Marriage Protection Act and to dispel the myth that all African American pastors are fundamentally opposed to the idea of marriage equality," said Rev. Delman Coates, senior pastor of the 8,000 member Mt. Ennon Baptist Church in Clinton, Md., during a press conference at the National Press Club in downtown Washington.

Pope: Gays Not Fully Human

Pope Benedict XVI told French Bishops last fall that they must do everything they can to resist gay marriage as it "threatens" society, going on to imply that gay people aren't fully developed humans. The Pope told his assembled religious brethren that "The family is threatened in many places by a faulty conception of human nature." Some translations have him saying the word "defective," in fact. In attempting to answer the inevitable charge that the Vatican is on the wrong side of history, played the God's judgment card when he said that this view was "not at all backward-looking but prophetic." His most startling remarks was his saying the Church must "promote those values that permit the full development of the human person."

Same-sex Deportation Protections

The Department of Homeland Security has stated in writing that foreigners who are same-sex partners of American citizens can be included under an Obama administration policy suspending deportations of some immigrants who pose no security risk. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said she was clarifying guidelines that enforcement officers had used when applying a policy of prosecutorial discretion in cases of illegal immigrants with no criminal convictions. Under the guidelines, which were first issued in June 2011, officers can consider "ties and contributions to the community, including family relationships" when deciding whether to halt a deportation.

Bill Prohibits E-only Rent Payments

Outgoing State Rep. Babette Josephs, D-Phila., has introduced legislation prohibiting landlords from requiring rental payments be made only in an electronic form. "It's been a very trying time for a number of people in my district," Josephs said. "In particular, the elderly have come forward and expressed their dismay over changes to rental agreements forcing them to pay online. These are long-time tenants who do not own computers, have Internet access or possess computer literacy, and they are being forced into a situation with which they are not comfortable or risk eviction. There needs to be a better solution." Currently, the law contains no language providing for what is considered to be or not be an acceptable form of rent payment. This bill would require landlords to accept at least one form of payment that is neither cash nor an electronic funds transfer.

States Ban "Ex-gay" Therapy

Following California, the first state to ban attempts to alter the sexual orientation of minors, New Jersey state assemblyman Timothy J. Eustace hopes his state can go forward with a similar measure. The NJ Democrat and gay father of two has announced that he will introduce a bill that would ban the use of so-called 'reparative therapies,' or 'sexual conversion therapies' aimed at changing people's sexual orientations in those under 18. I see it as a form of child abuse,' Eustace told the Philadelphia Inquirer. "Being gay is not an illness, so what are they fixing?"

Democratic state senators Raymond Lesniak and Stephen Sweeney plan to co-sponsor a similar measure in the New Jersey Senate House to prevent what they say are bogus therapeutic efforts that exploit 'young boys and girls who happen to be gay. "Parents don't have the right to endanger their children by participating in a practice that has no basis in science whatsoever," Senator Sweeney said.

In signing the California bill into law, California Governor Jerry Brown told the San Francisco Chronicle, "These practices have no basis in science or medicine and they will now be relegated to the dustbin of quackery." The California law has already been challenged in court.

Law Boosts PA Small Biz

State Rep. Eugene DePasquale, D-York, said a new law would require state agencies to consider small businesses before imposing regulations.

"With more than 900,000 small businesses, this is an important movement for Pennsylvania," DePasquale said. "Act 76 aims to ease the regulatory burdens that are unfairly placed on small, family-owned businesses."

Act 76 of 2012 requires state agencies to consider the impact of proposed regulations on small businesses and provide alternative accommodating requirements for small businesses consistent with the objective of the applicable statutes.

Under the law, agencies must identify how the new regulation will financially, economically and socially impact small businesses; estimate the number of small businesses that will be affected by the proposed regulation; project the cost of compliance with the proposed regulation for small businesses; and describe methods

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Welcome to the Tea Party

Tipton has broken with his party by announcing his support for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a key piece of legislation that would make it illegal to discriminate against LGBT individuals in the workplace.

"I don't believe we ought to be discriminating against people for their private lives," Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO) explained to ThinkProgress . "I'm a businessman. When you walk in the door, if you're able to do the job and you're focused on your job, that's all that's important":

SCOTT KEYES (TP): Federal legislation making it illegal to fire someone for being gay, for instance. What would you think about a bill like that?

TIPTON: I'm a businessman. When you walk in the door, if you're able to do the job and you're focused on your job, that's all that's important.

KEYES: I assume you wouldn't fire someone for being gay. But do you think it should be illegal for other businesses to do that?

TIPTON: I think we've got a good policy in this country of not being discriminatory and we should not be in regards to people's personal lives. It is in the employment into the world. It's about the ability to be able to do the job. That's certainly my focus.

KEYES: So you would probably be voting in favor of something like the Employment Non-Discrimination Act?

TIPTON: Yeah, yeah. I don't believe we ought to be discriminating against people for their private lives.

ENDA has floundered in Congress because Tipton's colleagues in the Republican caucus have repeatedly voted it down. Their rationales have ranged from believing homosexuality is a "choice" to calling the legislation a "war on religion".

Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO)

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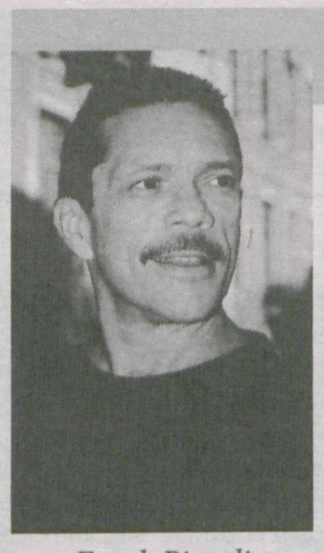
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GAY AND LESB AN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

publisher's note

Capitalist Haze



Frank Pizzoli

Some days I think Capitalism's hand in the marketplace is invisible because it's not there. Other days I hearken to Adam Smith's pronouncement. At least I'm thinking about it all and not so self assured as those who have abandoned the debate by remaining inert. It's not a debate if you refuse to constructively argue back and forth at the neighborhood Tea Party.

The marketplace's invisible hand has perhaps shown itself in the Chic-fil-A decision not to fund anti-gay organizations. As I've often said: Those who oppose gay civil rights like money more than they dislike gay people. Chic-fil-A may be an example of pure capitalism at work. If the essential proposition is that by giving others what they need you get money to later pursue what you want, then we've both won here.

As far as the religious underpinnings of the Chic-fil-A brouhaha, I'll reply on what journalist Murray Kempton wrote when he first covered in the 1960s then unknown Bill Graham: If there's 6,000 religions on the planet somebody's got to be wrong. I'm more of a treat me how you want to be treated guy. If you like being treated poorly, then please stay away.

Growing Pains

"If Liberals who voted for Obama in 2008 think he's been a failure, in the context of the crisis he inherited, then they could not have been serious about real change in the first place." That's what gay conservative Andrew Sullivan wrote in *Newsweek*. Here, here! Couldn't agree more. The nation needs the kind of change that will take successive presidents – no matter who they are or from what political party - years to accomplish.

In the midst of the Echo Chamber political discourse within both parties whose rent is paid by special interests (they're just different special interests but special nonetheless), we've lost this country's best asset. Our ability to pull together in order to produce the best we can in the economy, education, and purposeful communities based on a sensible quality of life.

When the Founding Fathers gave away thousands upon thousands of acres in the Midwest and beyond to anyone who wanted to develop the wilds, they didn't call it welfare or an entitlement. They called it nation building. We need to rebuild this nation with that same "can do" energy, because we can if we want to. Why wouldn't we want to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure?

To the successful businesswoman who went viral to say she didn't want to pay more in taxes because she already supports too many people, oh knock it off. Do not speak as if every penny you pay in taxes helps a person in a wheelchair or an unemployed family that needs Food Stamps. Those tax dollars you pay also support the roads you drive on to make your fortune. They supported the creation of the Internet you used to use make your millions. Good for you. You are the American Dream. Just don't be an amazingly cranky, whiny, all-for-me-now-that-I-got-mine example of success. Don't be short-sided. If those street lights go dark, those pot holes get deeper and the bridge you're on collapses en route to settling that once in a lifetime deal, trust me, you'll be the first one to bitch that the government should have done something. Which is not an example of Small Government you like to extol. It's an example of a government that uses the collected tax largesse to create a level playing for all. The type of level playing field on which you play and succeeded. So enough already with the "I pay for a lot now" crap. You've gotten a lot too. Try to be humble and say "Thank you".

voice box

ADVERTISERS ON HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE STORY

Thank you so much. This is great!
MJ Wertz, Trophy House

Thank you!
Carrie Wisler-Thomas
Art Association of Harrisburg

Don't want to miss this.
The Paper Lion Gallery

Thanks for doing this!
Karen Taylor
Karen's Harmony Hall

This is a nice touch.
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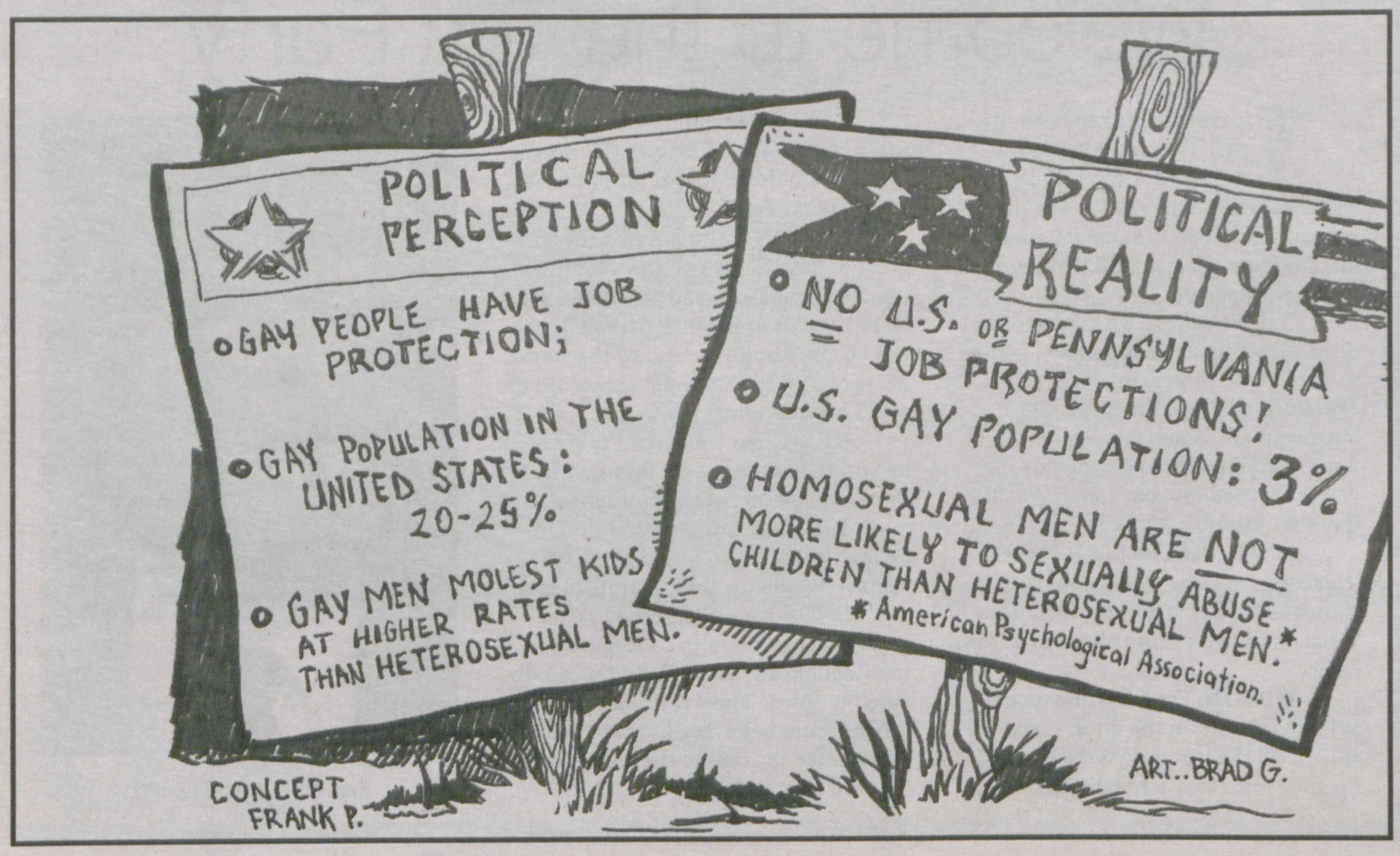

Better Off with Barack Obama *By Alan Kennedy-Shaffer*

Harrisburg HOPE

Alan Kennedy-Shaffer
Central Voice photo

In the last four years, Obama created more than four million private sector jobs, including nearly half a million manufacturing jobs, brought our troops home from Iraq, repealed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," pledged his support for marriage equality, cut oil imports, reined in Wall Street, passed health insurance reform, and expanded access to higher education.

In accepting the Republican presidential nomination this year, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney said, "Every president since the Great Depression who came before the American people asking for a second term could look back at the last four years and say with satisfaction: 'you are better off today than you were four years ago.' Except Jimmy Carter. And except this president." Following the GOP convention, Romney and his running mate, Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan, took every opportunity to frame the election along these lines. Betting against American optimism, Romney repeatedly asked: Are you better off now than you were four years ago?

Perhaps a look at President George W. Bush's America would help. Four years ago, Americans were worried that the 797,000 jobs lost in November of 2008 might become a trend. Four years ago, Americans were worried that pre-existing conditions and college graduation would prevent millions of Americans from having health insurance. Four years ago, Americans were worried that "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" would continue to thin the ranks of our military. Four years ago, Americans were worried that the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan might never end. Four years ago, Americans were worried that the pillars of our nation's economy might never recover.

President Barack Obama did not create the economic crisis from which our nation is recovering. He did not get us into the War in Iraq or send our soldiers into Afghanistan for the first time. And while he did find Osama bin Laden, he did not do so under a "Mission Accomplished" banner. So what exactly did Obama do between his inauguration in 2009 and this year's presidential election? In the last four years, Obama created more than four million private sector jobs, including nearly half a million manufacturing jobs, brought our troops home from Iraq, repealed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," pledged his support for marriage equality, cut oil imports, reined in Wall Street, passed health insurance reform, and expanded access to higher education.

When Obama took office, our nation was losing three-quarters of a million jobs each month. In August of 2012, our nation gained more than one hundred thousand jobs, the thirtieth month in a row in which jobs were created rather than lost. Although unemployment remains above eight percent – an unacceptably high number and source of pain for millions of American looking for work – recent economic data revealed rising consumer confidence, rising median home prices, and fewer underwater mortgages. September polls also showed most Americans supporting the president's economic decisions and trusting Obama more than Romney to handle the economy.

By September, of course, Romney had hoped to cobble together a coalition of middle class workers, seniors, poor Americans, and business executives fed up with Obama's inability to return America to prosperity overnight. Remember Romney's acceptance speech: "In the richest country in the history of the world, this Obama economy has crushed the middle class. Family income has fallen by $4,000, but health insurance premiums are higher, food prices are higher, utility bills are higher, and gasoline prices have doubled. Today more Americans wake up in poverty than ever before. Nearly one out of six Americans is living in poverty. Look around you. These are not strangers. These are our brothers and sisters, our fellow Americans."

But in a remarkable twist of fate, President Jimmy Carter's grandson unearthed a video of Romney telling wealthy donors on May 17 that "there are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what…who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe that government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food,

Pennsylvania members of the Democratic National Convention Rules Committee

Alan Kennedy-Shaffer at Democratic National Convention.

to housing, to you name it." "These are people who pay no income tax," Romney continued. "My job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives."

Aside from convincing many Americans – particularly those who fall within the 47 percent – that Romney lacked compassion for those in need of a hand up, Romney's derision of the 47 percent that he accused of paying no income tax failed to account for some inconvenient truths. Of the 46 percent of Americans who did not pay federal income taxes in 2011, most still paid payroll taxes as well as state and local taxes. And of the 18.1 percent of Americans who paid no federal taxes, 10.3 percent were seniors and 6.9 percent earned less than $20,000. In short order, Romney made clear that it is not his job to worry about seniors, veterans, students, or the poor.

In light of Obama's accomplishments and Romney's shortcomings, it should not be too difficult to answer the question of whether we are better off now than we were four years ago. The better question is whether Obama's reelection will lead to more jobs, the extension of marriage equality to every American, the protection of more working families from Wall Street abuses, and fewer unnecessary wars. But if Romney continues to insist on making this year's presidential election about whether we are better off now than we were four years ago, let us be clear: Yes we are.

Alan Kennedy-Shaffer serves on the rules committee for the 2012 Democratic National Convention and is author of "The Obama Revolution."

Ally's Guide to Gay Issues Available Free

Equality Pennsylvania

Equality PA has joined with Human Rights Campaign, Log Cabin Republicans, National Stonewall Democrats, and the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund and Institute in releasing "An Ally's Guide to Issues Facing LGBT Americans."

This publication is a primer introducing the major areas in which unfair laws and stigma create extra burdens for LGBT Americans and prevent them from having the chance to pursue health and happiness, earn a living, be safe in their communities, and serve their country.

The guide features maps and discussions of federal and state laws that stand in the way of equal opportunity for LGBT Americans.

Contrary to popular belief, federal law doesn't protect LGBT Americans from discrimination in employment, housing, credit or public accommodations. Most Americans don't realize that LGBT workers often cannot extend their earned health insurance coverage to their partners or children. They don't understand that without family and marriage tax deductions, LGBT families pay additional taxes but are denied access to essential protections like Social Security survivor benefits.

And they don't realize that due to these and myriad other inequalities, LGBT people are more likely to live in poverty and suffer from health disparities.

The guide highlights all of these issues and more--as well as opportunities for change--in an accessible, easy-to-read report that can be used to spark discussion and educate allied non-profits and funders, media, policymakers, and even co-workers, friends and family members who don't fully understand the daily inequalities LGBT people face.

Download Guide: www.lgbtmap.org.

COMMENTRAY:

The Face of "Modern Slavery" Looks a Lot Like Us

BY BARB HAMP WEICKSEL

"The ugly truth is that this goes on right here," he said. "It's the migrant worker unable to pay off the debt to his trafficker. ... The teenage girl — beaten, forced to walk the streets. This should not be happening in America."

These were words spoken in a speech by President Barack Obama at the Clinton Global Initiative's annual meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 25. He was speaking about human trafficking, which he also said should be called by its real name: "modern slavery."

For most of us, myself included, we have chosen to ignore the facts of human trafficking in the 21st century. The word "slavery" conjures up Civil War-era cotton fields, and "darkies" being bought and sold and used for whatever purpose their master had in mind. But this isn't 1862. This is 2012, and people are still being bought and sold on United States soil and used for whatever purpose their master has in mind.

This isn't just an issue that affects poor people. The LGBT community needs to understand and accept that this is also a gay issue. The American Center for Progress estimates that 320,000 to 400,000 LGBT youth face homelessness each year in the United States.

Imagine if you can; 400,000 gay youth forced to leave their homes, with no family, no support, and living on the streets. They become the most vulnerable among us. They become the epitome of what is an easy target for the criminals who want only to exploit their bodies for sexual prostitution; and not just prostitution, but commercial sexual exploitation.

Children who are forced out of the only home they have ever known by parents, who can't tolerate the thought of their child being gay, find themselves alone and on the street. They latch on to the first people who offer them a place to stay and a chance at a new life, only to find themselves thrown away once again; this time for sex and drugs and money.

Most of us don't even want to let our minds wander to that dark place of "modern slavery." We don't want to think of it, read of it and hear of it, so we simply pretend it doesn't exist. Or we believe that it does exist, only not here in the United States and not here in San Diego, America's Finest City. Not here in the "land of the free, and the home of the brave."

The State Department estimates that nearly 50,000 persons enter the United States of America each year having been sold into bondage. Slaves. They may not be black, stuffed into wooden boats arriving on the shores of Virginia or the Carolinas and sold on auction blocks, but they are slaves' none-the-less.

President Obama's speech on this "modern slavery" is in itself historic. No other government figure has ever spent the time in a public forum dedicated to this subject. The President signed an executive order to ensure the U.S. would "lead by example" on trafficking-free government contracting.

"We're making clear that American tax dollars must never, ever be used to support the trafficking of human beings," Obama said. "We will have zero tolerance. We mean what we say. We will enforce it."

The President made clear his intent to help the victims of the modern slavery recover. He promised to offer better access to treatment, access to legal services and to make the visa process for victims brought to America against their will simpler to navigate.

As citizens, we cannot simply close our eyes and our minds, and refuse to believe that such atrocities exist in our United States of America. This could be any one of us. This could be our children, our nieces and nephews, our cousins, our relatives.

For those of us who are gay and have had family turn their back and throw us out, we know the pain; we know how easily it could have been any one of us landing alone on the streets of a big city only to be lured by the promise of "family." We must step up and show up when it comes to reporting something that doesn't look quite right. To be silent is to put another child in danger.

The Center for American Progress reported in 2010 that there were "approximately 1.6 million to 2.8 million homeless young people in the United States, and estimates suggest that disproportionate numbers of those youth are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender. These vulnerable gay and transgender youth often run away from home because of family conflict and then face overt discrimination when seeking alternative housing, which is compounded by institutionalized discrimination in federally funded programs."

The truth of the matter is that we are our brother's keeper. It's the only way we can make any sense of the dark, dark places of the world. To wish a life of slavery on any one person because of race, sex, gender, orientation, age or for any reason, is wrong in any country in any language. But to know that on the streets of the United States of America in the year 2012 we have young men and women enslaved as sex objects – to know that in towns and cities all across our nation we have men, women and children working in conditions we wouldn't subject our pets to is an abomination.

It's not just the job of the government to combat this modern slavery. It's the job of every American to combat this atrocity. Raise your voice, report things that don't look right, look into where your local hotels, restaurants, etc. are getting their workforce. Follow their supply chain, and hold these companies accountable. And when it comes time to vote – vote for the people who will hold these big companies accountable.

I know I won't hide my head in the sand any longer; I'll be vocal, and ever vigilant. I'll also show great kindness to the kid on the street knowing that "there but for the grace of God go I."

Barb Hamp Weicksel was born in 1952 in Pennsylvania and moved to California in the early 1980s, where she met her partner Susan. They've been together some 30 years and share the love of Susan's four children, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.)

PA: High Energy Efficiency Rankings

The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) released their annual scorecard, ranking Pennsylvania 20th in the nation for energy efficiency policy and performance. The state improved by five spots from last year tying it for 4th most improved state in the country.

Much of the state's progress can be linked to the Energy Savings Act, or Act 129, a program overseen by the Public Utility Commission (PUC) that requires all Pennsylvania utilities to offer programs to customers that result in 3% energy savings by 2013. A recent decision by the PUC to extend this successful initiative by three years to 2016 played a role in the new ranking, as did the utilities' strong performance over the last two years.

"This improvement is great news for Pennsylvania's families and businesses who are saving more money and breathing cleaner air as a result. This should inspire the PUC and the legislature to do even more to help consumers stop losing money on wasted energy and further improve our ranking," said Tom Schuster, Pennsylvania Representative for the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign.

ACEEE
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

To date, most utilities in the state are on track to exceed that target with only West Penn Power failing to meet the interim program goals. In just the first two years of the program consumers saved $278 million each year, or $8 for every $1 invested in energy efficiency, and over 4,000 jobs were created, according to a study commissioned by PennFuture.

"Energy efficiency is the cleanest and cheapest energy resource available and it creates more jobs per unit of energy than conventional generation," said Schuster.

Despite the recent progress on efficiency in the Commonwealth, there is much room for improvement if it wants to move up further in the rankings. Legal obstacles prevent the adoption of more energy efficient building codes, and the Energy Savings Act excludes gas conservation measures and has a cap that limits utility spending on cost-effective energy efficiency.

"For the sake of lower energy bills, economic competitiveness, job creation, and cleaner air, Pennsylvania should aspire to be a national leader in energy efficiency. We're making progress, but still have a long way to go to modernize our building codes, allow greater investments in cost effective efficiency programs and ensure our PUC holds utilities accountable for helping families and businesses cut wasted energy and wasted dollars," said Schuster.

Law Boosts

continued from page 3

the state agency could reduce the proposed regulation's impact on small businesses.

"Further, this law allows small businesses that are adversely affected by these regulations to take action," DePasquale said. "No more will they be forced to deal with burdensome regulations."

A small business is defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration's size regulations. Under these federal regulations, a business is determined to be a small business by the number of employees or annual receipts, which varies according to the type of industry.

PA Must Pull Parent Trigger to Save Education

By Jay D. Ostrich

Martin Luther King Jr. believed that, "unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality." If correct, then no stronger love or enduring truth can personify his dream than between a caring parent and their needful child.

But what happens when parents don't get the final word, what then of their reality? Sadly, in the case of their children's education, thousands of Pennsylvania parents have been held hostage by economic and political realities undergirded by poor, unimaginative policies yielding negative or negligible returns.

In essence, the majority of parents in Pennsylvania are stuck with public schools assigned to them by ZIP code as their only option. While many public schools are doing a fine job educating our children, we all know some are failing to reach even the most basic academic standards. For our kids, commonwealth and country, the results of this failure could not be more disastrous.

Just days ago, the Pennsylvania Department of Education released results of student test scores for 2011-12, which show declining student performance in our public schools on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessments, or PSSAs, the test most widely used to track student progress in Pennsylvania public schools.

Few would call the results anything but disheartening. Statewide, 25 percent of children failed to reach proficiency in math, while nearly 30 percent cannot read at grade level. As for the state's 500 school districts, only 60 percent made "Adequate Yearly Progress," compared to more than 90 percent last year.

For their part, the Pennsylvania State Education Association, the largest teachers

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Sierra Club Opposes Delaware Water Gap Transmission Lines

The Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club is deeply disappointed in a recent decision allowing the development of electric transmission lines through the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DWGNRA), one of the most-visited locations in the National Parks system.

The National Parks Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior have announced that it would permit two 500 kilovolt electric transmission lines on 200-ft. towers through 150-ft. wide swaths of clear-cut right-of-way through the DWGNRA and the Appalachian Trail and over the Delaware River.

The DWGNRA, which hosts more than five million visitors annually, contains unique wetlands, endangered animal and plant species, as well as scenic vistas and wilderness trails. The Sierra Club and other environmental organizations testified that the construction and operation of this project would forever damage or destroy this area, which is designated as a Wild and Scenic River and the largest free-flowing waterway in the eastern United States.

NPS acknowledged the destruction that this project will cause to the DWGNRA but claims it will be "mitigated" by a promised $30 million donation from PPL and PSE&G to purchase some additional land for the DWGNRA. "This in no way can 'mitigate' or replace the unique wetlands, habitats, scenic viewsheds, and visitor experiences in the existing DWGNRA," said Jeff Schmidt, executive director of the Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter.

Fishermen, canoeists, rafters, and picnic-goers on the Delaware River will have their experience of the DWGNRA forever intruded upon by the towering transmission lines. Hikers and wildlife along the Appalachian Trail, a National Scenic Trail and historic outdoor wonder of the nation, will also be just as severely impacted by this project.

The Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club, as well as its Northeast and Lehigh Valley Groups, presented testimony and technical comments at the public hearings on this project conducted by the National Park Service over many months. Other environmental organizations and those of hundreds of Pennsylvania and New Jersey residents also provided comments opposing the project.

The Club and others argued that the project was not necessary. The transmission lines would move electricity from western Pennsylvania to the New York metropolitan area -- with no line connections for Pennsylvania customers. Yet, the power demands in New York and New Jersey have declined for each of the past several years and will continue to do so due to energy efficiency and conservation. The club contends that the sole purpose of the project is to allow the two utilities to sell cheap, environmentally-destructive coal-generated electricity from western Pennsylvania to make a quick profit in the New York City area.

The Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club, along with other environmental organizations are weighing their legal options to respond to this decision.

Commonwealth Foundation Issues Comments on Affordable Care Act

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act—often dubbed "Obamacare"—will cost Americans $1.2 trillion from 2012 to 2022 according to the Congressional Budget Office. These projections do not account for the additional costs to state governments or the higher costs for private health insurance.

Unsustainable Welfare Spending

The Affordable Care Act requires states to expand eligibility for Medicaid (government health insurance for the poor and disabled).

The expansion will extend Medicaid eligibility to an additional 800,000 Pennsylvanians, placing a quarter of state residents on government insurance.

Newly eligible Medicaid recipients in Pennsylvania would cost more than $21 billion from 2014 to 2022 according to the Heritage Foundation. While federal tax dollars would cover the majority of this cost, state taxpayers' costs would range from $1.3 to $5.5 billion.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled the federal government cannot force states to increase Medicaid eligibility, making the expansion optional.

Even without the expansion, Medicaid costs are unsustainable.

Medicaid currently consumes about 30% of Pennsylvania's state operating budget.

Over the past decade, Pennsylvania Medicaid spending increased 83%, nearly twice as much as personal income (45% over the last 10 years).

The Government Accountability Office projects Medicaid expenditures will continue to grow faster than the economy even without the ACA expansion.

In addition to expanding Medicaid, the ACA extends entitlements to higher-income households—up to $43,560 per individual or nearly $90,000 for a family of four—by subsidizing the purchase of health insurance through "exchanges."

Low Quality Care and Higher Costs

Government programs provide limited access to care and low-quality coverage.

Currently, one-third of Medicaid providers will not take new patients, according to a study published in the journal Health Affairs.

Pennsylvania's aging population, which depends on Medicare, will experience lower quality care as the ACA cuts Medicare Advantage (Medicare plans provided by private companies) and reduces doctor payments, which are already less than private insurance payments.

The new Independent Payment Advisory Board will ration limited Medicare funds by refusing to cover procedures it deems non-cost effective instead of leaving treatment decisions to the patient.

As a result of the ACA's new regulations, many doctors are planning to retire or stop taking new patients.

The Association of Medical Colleges estimated the United States would face a shortage of 62,900 doctors in just three years under the ACA.

The Doctors and Patient Medical Association Foundation found 83% of doctors are considering quitting due to government intervention. Similarly, medical malpractice insurer The Doctor's Company found the ACA is motivating 43% of doctors to retire within the next five years.

Despite promises from President Obama that insurance costs would decline, premiums throughout Pennsylvania are increasing.

Highmark raised rates for small businesses by more than 50% in July 2010 and is requesting another 10% hike.

Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania was granted rate increases from 9% to 15%.

Aetna increased Individual Advantage Plan rates by 10%, citing the ACA.

Nationally, total government and private health care spending is projected to grow by 7.4% in 2014 (when many of the ACA provisions go into effect), and then continue to increase by 6.2% annually through 2021, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

New Taxes

The ACA includes 20 new taxes on providers, consumers, non-consumers and the health care industry, including:

Tax on the uninsured: Individuals without the federally mandated level of coverage will pay a tax up to 2.5% of income, beginning January 2014.

Tax on jobs: Employers with more than 50 employees who don't provide the mandated level of coverage will be taxed at $2,000 per employee, beginning in 2014. This tax will most likely come out of workers' salaries or result in higher prices for products and services.

Taxes on high incomes: Households making at least $250,000 will pay an addi-

continued on page 8

Parent Trigger continued from page 7

union in the state, quickly distanced itself from responsibility, fleeing with a fallacy of underfunding, laying blame squarely at the feet of the governor. This smokescreen clearly ignores commonsense and courtesy to the facts.

Alternative institutions like Pennsylvania Catholic schools operate at a fraction of the cost with 97 percent of graduates reaching post-secondary education. Meanwhile, in the last 15 years, Pennsylvania actually doubled spending on public schools only to produce stagnating SAT scores and some districts mired in single-digit proficiency rates.

Those still advancing the claim that more dollars make more scholars need look no further than Harrisburg School District. Despite a price tag of more than $18,000 yearly per student, the district failed to meet minimum standards for the 10th-straight year, with 7 out of 10 students unable to reach proficiency in reading and math.

Ultimately, children stuck at failing schools need not wait in vain. State legislators, parents, teachers and taxpayers can band together to pull Pennsylvania kids out of the mire of mediocrity by embracing and enacting Senate Bill 1115. The bill would improve oversight of charter schools and their ability to function. Charters have not only exploded in popularity since they opened 15 years ago, but in many cities significantly outperformed Pennsylvania's traditional public schools.

Despite widespread, bipartisan support among parents, the bill remains mired in political flux with the teachers' unions fighting vigorously against parental empowerment because the bill would create something called the "parent trigger."

Simply put, the parent trigger allows parents to take greater control over a public school that consistently fails to educate their children. In most cases, at least half of all parents must sign a petition demanding reform at the school. The type of parent trigger reform varies, but among the options used nationwide, including in progressive states like California and Connecticut, parents may convert a school into a charter, change the board and top administrative leadership, or shut down the building entirely to allow students to learn at other schools.

In the best-known case in America – Desert Trails Elementary School in Adelanto, California – Doreen Diaz saw her fifth-grade daughter, Vanessa, struggle to read at a second-grade level. Diaz fought back, forming a "parent union" that successfully won enough support to pull the parent trigger. Although the case continues, the subject has even spawned a major film opening in theaters this week called "Won't Back Down," ironically based in Pittsburgh though no such law applies in Pennsylvania.

With seven states now adopting similar laws that put parental and student interests before those of government unions, it's time Pennsylvania lawmakers pull the parent trigger lest the final word on Dr. King's dream becomes unreachable.

Jay Ostrich is director of public affairs for the Commonwealth Foundation (www.commonwealthfoundation.org), Pennsylvania's free market think tank.

Commonwealth continued from page 7

tional 3.8% tax on dividends, and 0.9% on income above $250,000 on the Medicare payroll tax, effective January 2013.

Taxes on health insurance and the health care industry: An insurer tax on Medicaid plans will cost Pennsylvania at least $1.1 billion over 10 years as it is phased in from 2014 to 2018. The so-called "Cadillac tax" of 40% on premium health insurance plans worth more than $10,200 for individuals and $27,500 for families begins in 2018. Finally, the ACA levies a 2.3% excise tax on medical device manufacturers, estimated to eliminate about 14,000 to 47,100 jobs, effective 2013.

Other taxes include a 10% tax on indoor tanning, increased penalties and limitations on Health Savings Accounts, and reduced itemized deductions on personal income taxes for health care costs.

Overall, the ACA taxes will take more than $500 billion from American taxpayers between 2012 and 2022.

The cost of these taxes comes to $1,591 per person through 2022, or $6,363 per family of four.

Patient-Centered Alternatives

Policymakers can lower the cost of health care and give patients more control by implementing the following reforms:

Congress should give states flexibility to manage Medicaid through block grants or waivers, which would reduce mandates tied to federal funds and allow state lawmakers to customize Medicaid to meet the unique needs of Pennsylvanians.

Congress must even the playing field by allowing individuals to receive the same tax benefits for purchasing insurance as businesses.

By returning health care policy to the states, state lawmakers can adopt cost-saving reforms that:

Allow individuals and small businesses to buy insurance across state lines.

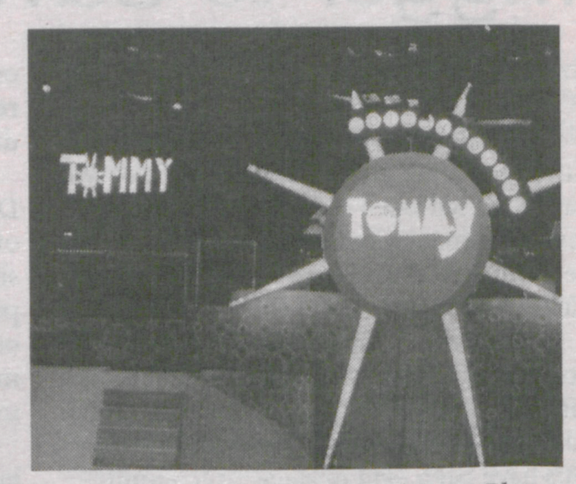
Allow individuals to opt out of certain mandates or buy "mandate-lite" insurance.

Repeal state laws which drive up the cost of prescription drugs, requiring higher prices than places like Wal-Mart would otherwise charge.

Adopt tort reform, eliminating frivolous suits, jackpot jury awards, and defensive medicine that drive up the cost of health care.

Sharadin Bigler Theatre Rocks!

The Ephrata Performing Arts Center's "Tommy" rocked the Sharadin Bigler Theatre in July with an electrifying cast and expertly delivered musical score. The theatre's history is astonishing – Betty White began her stage career there as she wrote on a stage photograph on the lobby wall. White's photograph joins other celebrities lauding the theatre's work (including Jonathan Groff of "Glee" and "Spring Awakening"), making a visit there for entertainment and a peek worthwhile. Upcoming: "Spring Awakening" (Oct. 25-Nov. 10). "Anything Goes" (Dec. 6-22).



Central Voice Photos

Gay Rights Linked to Slavery, Abortion, Pedophilia, Socialism No kitchen sink?

Andrew Potts reports that three anti-gay rights campaigners have made a series of extreme comments about gay LGBT and same-sex marriage in a matter of weeks across the US, comparing the issue with slavery, abortion, pedophilia and socialism.

On October 5 Erick Bennet of the Maine Equal Rights Center wrote an opinion article for the Bangor Daily News in which he warned that legalizing same-sex marriage was part of a socialist takeover of America which could lead to Communism.

"Eleven other countries have passed gay marriage," Bennet wrote.

"Passing gay marriage is not the only thing they have in common. They are also ranked the most socialist countries on earth. So what does socialism have to do with same-sex marriage?"

"Socialism is a political and economic theory that believes that government should control everything. It is a stage between overthrowing capitalism and creating a communist government.

"Gay marriage is a global agenda, and when they speak about "equality" they are talking about making America equal with the rest of the world, hence, the need to eliminate free speech, states" rights and what it means to be an American citizen."

The comments came only weeks after Iowan anti-gay activist Bob Vander Plaats compared the legalization of same-sex marriage in his state to court rulings on slavery and abortion as part of a campaign to have what he believes are activist judges thrown off the Iowa Supreme Court after they ruled in favor of same-sex marriage in that state.

"It is the court that should be independent, free of politics, to uphold the constitution, not to trample on the constitution, not to insert politics in the constitution," Vander Plaats told a rally.

"One opinion: Dred Scott, [said] blacks are property … Roe v. Wade, we've killed sixty million babies off a court's opinion. One opinion, the Varnum opinion and you are now seeing same-sex marriage infiltrate this state."

Then on September 24, Pentecostal bishop and televangelist James Robison compared having same-sex marriage to having a world where pedophiles were legally protected as part of a video campaign against marriage equality

Robison said a world with same-sex marriage, "would be like … the public has decided to allow pedophiles to play in the public parks and there was nothing we could do about it."

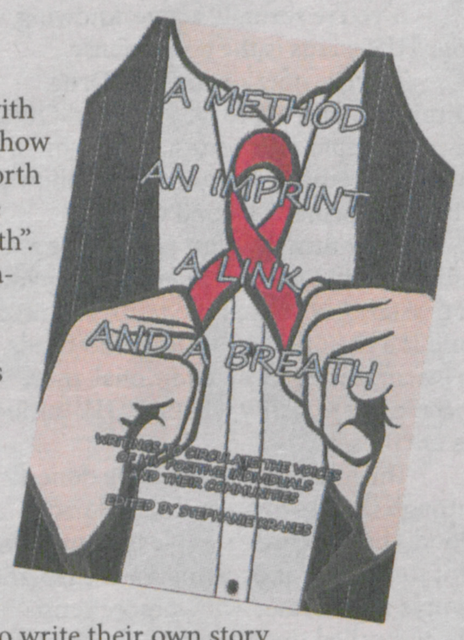
The comments come as LGBT rights opponents ramp up their rhetoric ahead of the US Presidential Election.

"With ignorance comes fear- from fear comes bigotry. Education is the key to acceptance."

— Kathleen Patel, *The Bullying Epidemic-the guide to arm you for the fight*

People Living with HIV Share Experiences

Book Edited by Stephanie Kranes



Over the course of a year Stephanie Kranes gathered personal narratives from people living with HIV in south central Pennsylvania. "I wanted to show what it means to live and struggle with HIV in North America in 2012," Kranes says about the book she edited, "A Method, an Imprint, a Link, and a Breath".

During her time as a medical casework, Kranes listened to clients share intimate stories about their lives, everything from their feelings about their own blood to the way they mourned the loss of their healthy bodies. The stories that clients informally shared, whether during a doctor's appointment or standing in the welfare line, "were gorgeous, and they were painful to hear, and they kept me up at night, writing, until I realized I should not be the only one writing," Kranes explains.

She collaborated with 42 men and women to write their own story in a way that felt therapeutic for the client and spoke to a larger need to inform public health discourse with the words of survivors. The pieces comprise spoken word, poetry, and personal narrative, and I think overall, the authors address themes of both grief and resilience in a well-balanced form.

She notes that as public awareness of HIV has faded since life-sustaining medication became widely available in the U.S. in 1996, this lack of awareness and understanding has contributed to deeply rooted stigma against HIV in this region and elsewhere. "The hope is that the voices in this book will circulate through public venues and into personal conversations. People whose days are cloaked in silence need to know that they are not alone, and perhaps this book will add to the movement to give voice to the ways people live, dream, and die too quietly."

The book is available from Lulu Press at Lulupress.com. Kranes can be reached at Kranes33@gmail.com.

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HIV: Knowing Status Is Best Defense

If you're sexually active, knowing your HIV status is the best defense.

There is now a Food and Drug Administration approval of the OraQuick In-home rapid HIV test that relies on oral fluid to determine if you need to follow up with a confirmative blood test.

A confirmative test is available at Alder Health Services, in Harrisburg and Lancaster. A reactive HIV test result on oral fluid is a preliminary positive and needs to be confirmed by an additional, more specific test to verify whether HIV antibodies are present.

The follow-up test may be done either through the use of an oral sample or a blood sample, either sample type must be sent to a lab for processing. In the lab, the sample is processed with a more sensitive test called the Western Blot which is the only confirmatory test to diagnose an HIV infection. The follow-up tests at Alder Health Services are offered at no-cost to the patient through a partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

"If you elect to use an OraQuick In-home rapid HIV test you can always call Alder Health Services with any questions or, if necessary, for a follow-up test. HIV testing if offered each week, on Monday evenings in Lancaster and on Wednesday evenings in Harrisburg. Individuals are also welcome to call at any time with questions or concerns." says Candace Sillers, Director of Education and Wellness Services.

The OraQuick test uses more than your saliva.

The test uses oral fluid, which is slightly different from saliva. To perform the test, the person being tested for HIV gently swabs the device completely around the outer gums, both upper and lower, one time around and inserts it into a vial containing a developer solution. After 20 minutes, the test device will indicate if HIV antibodies are present in the solution by displaying two reddish-purple lines in a small window in the device.

"When Alder Health does testing in the community, the agency uses the same test. Whether you access HIV testing through our program or elect to use the home-test, Alder Health Services can be there to offer support – regardless of the result, negative or positive. Our staff can help you develop a plan to stay negative and can help you develop a plan for further care and support," says Sillers.

An advantage of the test is that oral fluids will provide a safe, accurate, and rapid HIV test for persons who don't like to have blood drawn or their finger stuck with a lancet.

In the clinical studies by the manufacturer, the OraQuick oral fluid test correctly identified 99.3% of people who were infected with HIV (sensitivity) and 99.8 % of people who were not infected with HIV (specificity). The Food and Drug Administration expects clinical laboratories to obtain similar results.

Alan Kennedy-Shaffer hosted a Harrisburg Hope panel discussion last month on Harrisburg City's fiscal recovery plan. From left, Kennedy-Shaffer, Bishop A. E. Sullivan Jr, firefighter union representative Erik Jenkins, Debt Watch founder Neil Grover, Today's the Day and Roxbury News' Tara Leo Auchey, and city representative Robert Philbin. About 150 people attended. On the same day, Harrisburg's court-appointed Receiver William Lynch announced, after considering 14 proposals, he will negotiate a long-term lease of the city's parking garages with Harrisburg First, affiliated with investment firm Guggenheim Partners. The parking system lease and the city's $340 million debt-laden incinerator is expected to be sold before the end of the year, according to State Department of Community and Economic Development official Fred Reddig. An incinerator deal is in negotiations with the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority.

Central Voice Photo

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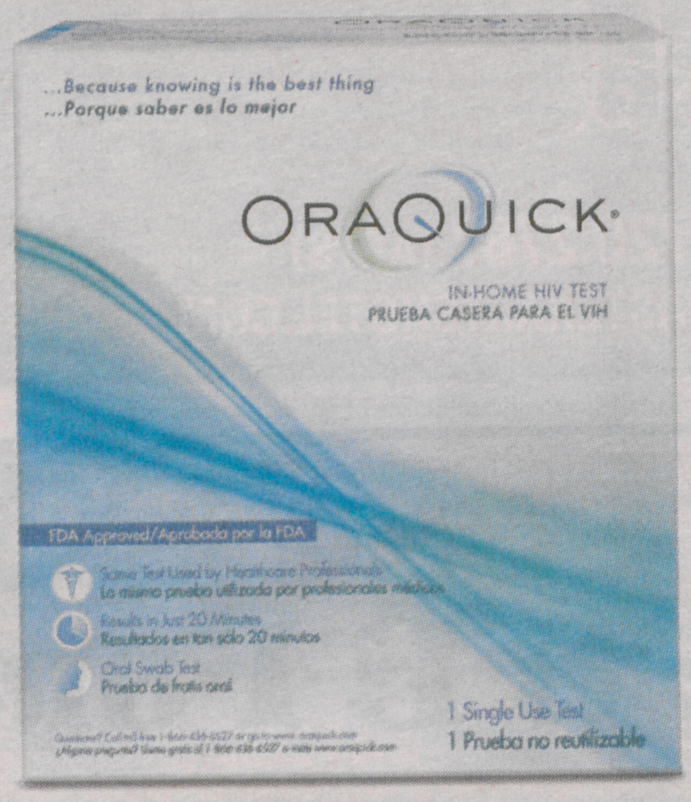

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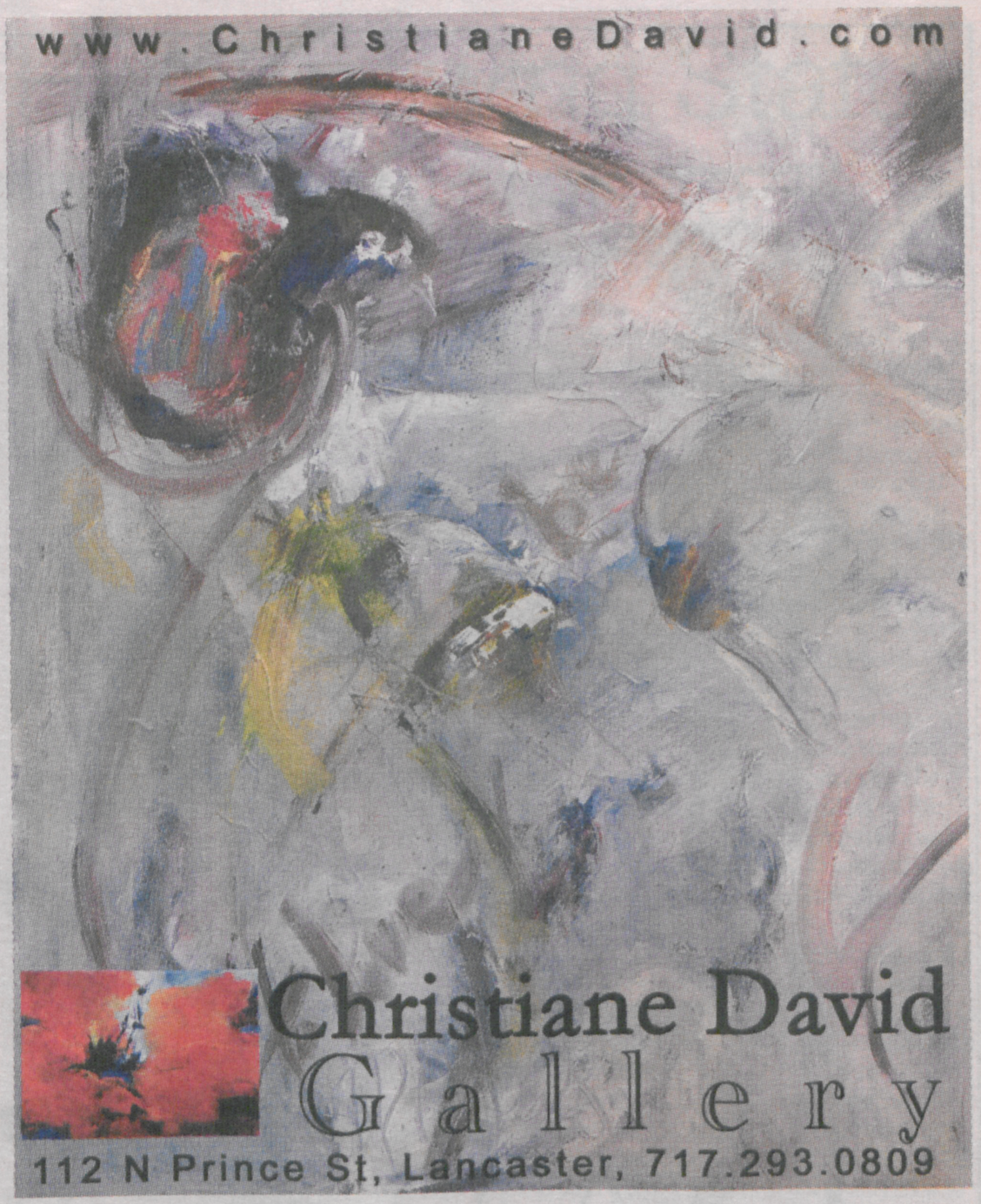

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Harrisburg Area Community College

"Ellis Island of Advancement"

Dr. Ski greets a student following his inauguration on Oct. 21, 2011

continued from page one

enrolled. We need to offer diverse ways of learning," Dr. Ski says.

HACC's funding outlook as is diverse as ever.

Dr. Ski telescopes the institution's funding history as "supported by, then assisted by, and now located" in the region. Overall, state funding accounts for about 18% of the college's annual funding, under $30 million and down from 20-24% in previous years. "We're moving to a tighter fit with all aspects of our budgeting," Dr. Ski explains.

PA Sen. Bob Mensch in 2011 introduced legislation creating a task force to study funding formulas and local sponsorships of Pennsylvania's community colleges. The goal is to maintain tuition affordability for students. Currently, the community college funding formula keeps tuition to about one-third of the actual educational cost. The remainder comes from state funding and local sponsorships from either school districts or counties.

Dr. Ski notes that currently four community colleges are sponsored by school districts and 10 are sponsored by counties. "School districts and counties are reevaluating their sponsorships," he explains, adding that "diverse funding is the key to our future."

His funding forecast also includes a close relationship with the region's business community. For example, one way to close the gap of lost funding from sponsors is a tighter fit between state and federal skills training dollars and the region's business needs. A perennial problem faced by all educational institutions is the mix or miss of student skills versus skills required by business.

"An Internet year is three months," Dr. Ski says, noting that basic critical thinking skills in a fast-paced world are essential to quality hires by business. "Besides basic social and workplace interpersonal skills, our graduates must know how to adapt quickly and in work environments with shallow management structures," he stresses. "An employee must know how to work with colleagues to solve problems, and with colleagues who are increasingly diverse."

In related activity, HACC also plans to train and place 800 individuals in manufacturing, energy and health care jobs over the next two years by using federal retraining funds. The effort aims to fill skill gaps in high-demand industries.

Recently, HACC and Central Penn College inked an agreement allowing students who complete an associate degree in covering 11 disciplines can transfer directly Central Penn College.

Hershey Entertainment and Resort Company executive Frank Miles, in an annual meeting address to the Central Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, attended by Dr. Ski and his partner, Steve Perrault, lauded the region's diversity.

Miles brought a chuckle from the filled room that when he said," If you want New York City, go to New York City," explaining that the region was as diverse as could be and "anyone can feel comfortable here." In order to create comfort, HACC administers a Global Education Department with cultural exchange programs for about 300 students annually.

Dr. Ski describes his relaxation rounds along Harrisburg City's Greenbelt in terms of diversity. "As I'm riding my bike, I see people from all walks of life, all ethnic backgrounds. It's what the world is all about; it's what HACC is all about. Each and every one of us makes a difference."

HACC's Gay/Straight Groups

CAMPUS:	GROUP:	CONTACT INFO:
Gettysburg	Allies	Matt Point, advisor 337-3855 x3092 mspoint@hacc.edu
Harrisburg	Allies	Howard Alexander, advisor 780-3265 halealexander@hacc.edu *Jake Cinchy, President*
Lancaster	Allies	Warren Bair, advisor 358-2850 whbair@hacc.edu *Heather Venezia, President* *allies.lancaster@gmail.com*
Lebanon	Allies	Errol Wizda, advisor 270-6364 elwizda@hacc.edu
York	Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA)	Daniel Houloose, advisor 718-0328 x3563 dshouloo@hacc.edu

SKI AT WHEEL – On the first day of Fall 2012 term, Dr. Ski drove the new shuttle bus between the Harrisburg Campus and the Midtown site.

GAY HISTORY:
Kay Lahusen: *The Woman Behind the Lens*

By Jen Colletta

Kay Lahusen has seen a lot in her 82 years of life — much of it through the lens of a camera.

Lahusen, hailed as the first out LGBT photojournalist, spent decades capturing some of the most seminal moments in the LGBT-rights movement, crafting a stockpile of photographs that can be used to trace the pitfalls and progress of the community.

While her photos documented a wealth of historic moments in American LGBT activism, the pursuance of those pictures was, in itself, a bold act.

"I wanted to show our great diversity and to give viewers someone they could identify with, some positive role models. After all, role models were badly needed in the 1960s when most gay people were afraid to be photographed," Lahusen said.

Lahusen, born 1930 in Cincinnati, developed her interest in photography at a young age.

She began coming to terms with her orientation while in college and said she long held a "deep conviction that prejudice and discrimination against GLBT people is morally wrong."

That ideal led her to join Daughters of Bilitis, the nation's first lesbian-rights organization. At a DOB picnic in 1961, Lahusen was introduced to Barbara Gittings, a meeting that sparked a decades-long pairing — prompting Lahusen's move to Philadelphia and influencing her photojournalism career.

"[Barbara] was always a joiner and was inclined to join social-change groups, wanting to, as she said, 'fix things,'" Lahusen said. "We were reformers and basically good ACLU supporters."

Gittings took the helm of DOB's magazine "The Ladder" — the first national lesbian publication — from 1963-66, and Lahusen served as photographer. The magazine previously used drawings or cartoons on the cover, but Lahusen was committed to photographing real women.

"It wasn't easy for me to find many subjects back then," she said. "I wanted to change that, to bring those willing out into the sunlight and especially to show gay couples and gay love."

Although Lahusen and Gittings subtitled the publication "A Lesbian Review," Lahusen said they sought to appeal to the wider LGBT community by presenting "intellectually stimulating discussions of the major issues holding back the struggle for gay equality. Especially hard on us was the allegation by most psychiatrists that homosexuality was a form of mental illness."

Lahusen said that the "male chauvinism" that still permeated the community at the time kept most men "from taking 'The Ladder' seriously and from even reading the issues we worked so hard to produce."

Outside of her work on "The Ladder," for which she also served as a reporter, Lahusen was the unofficial photographer of many of the earliest gay-rights actions.

She was on hand with her camera at what came to be known as the Annual Reminders at Independence Hall in the mid-1960s, which called for the acceptance of gays and lesbians in mainstream society.

While she documented the occasions, Lauhsen was also a part of the action.

"Some participants were fearful, some were proud, others were simply marching in the belief that they had to come out if things were going to change," she said of the atmosphere at the pickets. "It's been said that all social-change movements find they ultimately have to take to the streets. Think of the early suffragettes, for example. Of course, when you're marching, you have no crystal ball to tell if you're helping make changes but you hope so, even believe so. I certainly believed we were doing something historically significant, something to help lift GLBT people as a class in our society."

Lahusen said one of her favorite photos she ever took was from the second Annual Reminder in 1966. It depicts Gittings marching with a sign that read, "Homosexuals should be judged as individuals."

"The word 'gay' was not popular in our cause until about 1970," Lahusen noted.

At the Philadelphia actions, held until 1969, and at other demonstrations staged in Washington, D.C. that urged the lifting of the ban on open gays and lesbians in federal employment, marchers were kept to a strict, conservative dress code.

Lahusen said the code was necessary for the cause, but she embraced its eventual lifting.

"Our thought was, if you want to be employed, look employable, and conventional dress was the order of the day in that era," she said. "Fortunately, times changed and by our 1970s demonstrations, the dress code was abandoned in the midst of the turmoil over anti-war protests and the hippie and free-love movements. I know I certainly was glad when the dress code was abandoned. It was appropriate for us to move with the times."

Lahusen was not present for a protest that came to be regarded as one of the most pivotal turning points in the LGBT-rights movement: the Stonewall Riots of 1969.

Lahusen and Gittings were on vacation at the time but Lahusen said that, when word spread that the LGBT community had rebelled against police discrimination in New York, she was thrilled.

"I don't like violence but I was pretty elated to hear that GLBT people were standing up and fighting back in the midst of a police riot on a seedy, mafia-run gay bar," she said. "Gay people were largely outwitting the police. News of their bravery galvanized gay people in New York and across the country really. The riots were a flashpoint, Barbara used to say, in the gay-rights movement and inspired gay people to get further organized and step up their efforts to improve the lives of their minority."

She noted that the late Frank Kameny, a contemporary of Lahusen's and Gittings' who helped organize the Annual Reminders, always pointed out that their actions predated Stonewall and were undoubtedly influential in encouraging that action.

"Early picketers inspired gay people to go a step further and fight back at Stonewall," she said.

Lahusen was also involved with the efforts to remove homosexuality from the American Psychiatric Association's list of mental illnesses, led by Gittings and Kameny. She lobbied the APA to include a gay panelist in its 1972 forum on psychiatry and homosexuality, and captured shots of that historic discussion that many credit with moving forward the APA's evolution on homosexuality.

Lahusen also supported Gittings' efforts with the American Library Association to introduce gay and lesbian materials into libraries.

In their activism work, Lahusen said she and Gittings always came to agreement on the right approach, sometimes "after long hours of discussion."

And they worked as a complementary team, she said, with Gittings possessing the "higher profile" and Lahusen working in a "support role."

"We brought different talents," Lahusen said. "Barbara was a terrific public speaker, she could always rally the troops. I especially loved photography, making exhibits and doing what you might call promotion work. Barbara was a terrific editor, and I was a pretty good reporter. The ideas we advanced were generally the same and summed up in our friend Frank Kameny's simple, but inspired, motto, 'Gay is good.'"

The principles of the early activists were illustrated in Lahusen's book "The Gay Crusaders," published by Paperback Library in 1972.

The work, which contains in-depth biographical sketches of 15 early activists, was published under Lahusen's pen name, Kay Tobin.

While Lahusen was lead author for the book, Randy Wicker was brought on as a co-author, as the publisher believed that having a male name on the book would help its sales, she said.

Lahusen sees the book, her reports for "The Ladder" and her vast collection of photos, as her greatest contributions to the LGBT-rights movement.

"It's been said that I'm the first gay photojournalist, since I kept at it sporadically over decades. There was no way I could be at every event, every time, but I believed it was a way of preserving gay history."

Her photo collection and she and Gittings' papers are now housed in the Archives Division of New York Public Library, which has published many of the photos online.

Gittings died in 2007 of breast cancer.

"Together, we had a wonderful life," Lahusen said.

The evolution society has undergone since Lahusen began her activism work more than a half-century ago gives her hope for the future.

"I believe most Americans have come to accept the fact that 'black is beautiful' and most are coming to accept the fact that 'gay is good.' I believe our movement is on the right side of history. Meanwhile, let's keep on marching for gay equality."

Immigrant Files Class Action Suit on Marriage Ban

Reuters writer Alex Dobuzinskis reports that a Philippine immigrant has filed a lawsuit seeking a legal right to stay in the US based on her same-sex marriage to an American.

The suit seeks to win for gays and lesbians the same immigration rights as heterosexual couples. The group that helped file the suit against the U.S. Department of Homeland Security called it the first proposed class action of its kind.

Plaintiffs Jane DeLeon, an immigrant from the Philippines, her son Martin Aranas, 25, and DeLeon's U.S. spouse Irma Rodriguez challenged the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

President Barack Obama said last year he considered the 1996 law unconstitutional and would no longer defend it. But the lawsuit filed in federal court in Los Angeles faults the Obama administration for reviewing immigration cases involving same-sex couples on a case-by-case basis, rather than placing them on hold while courts determine DOMA's constitutionality.

Peter Schey, executive director of the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law and the lead attorney in the case, said the waiver DeLeon was seeking to stay in the country was often granted to heterosexual couples.

"Our immediate concern is with the failure of the administration to implement a policy to provide protection from deportation for immigrants in same-sex marriages, as they've done recently for undocumented youth," Schey said.

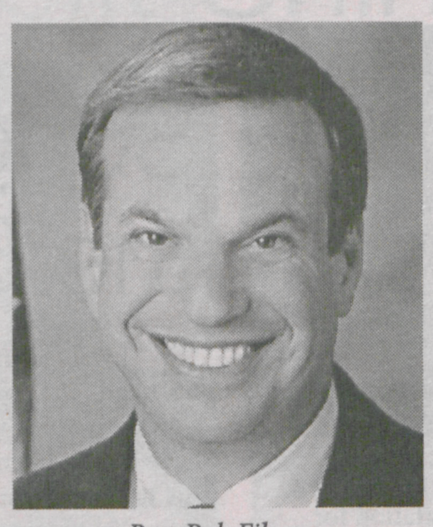
Several federal court rulings have called into question the constitutionality of DOMA. On May 31, a federal appeals court in Boston found DOMA unconstitutionally denied federal benefits to lawfully married same-sex couples. The ruling is expected to lead to a U.S. Supreme Court decision on DOMA.

Six states and the District of Columbia allow same-sex marriage.

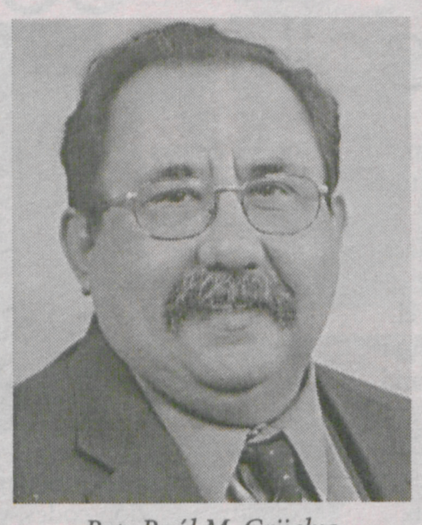
11 Most Pro-gay US Representatives – None from PA

Rep. Tammy Baldwin

Rep. Keith Ellison

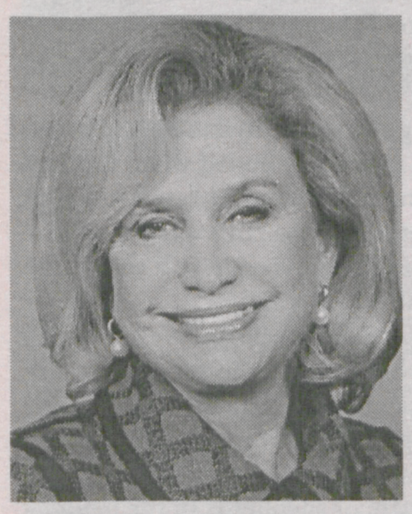


Rep. Bob Filner



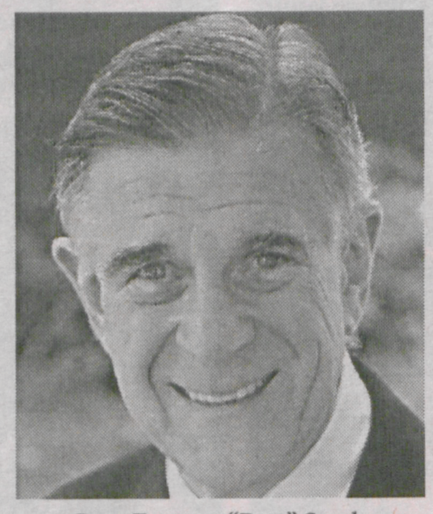
Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva

Rep. John Lewis

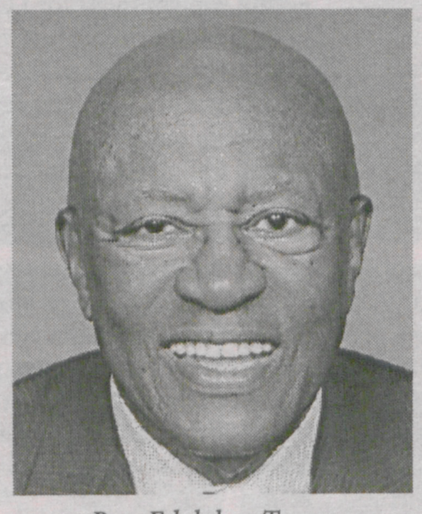


Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney

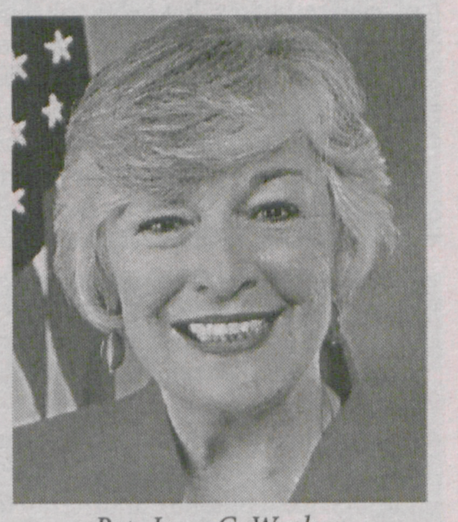
Rep. Gwen Moore



Rep. Fortney "Pete" Stark



Rep. Edolphus Towns



Rep. Lynn C. Woolsey

Think Progress LGBT has identified the 11 most pro-gay US Representatives

Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), a seventh-term Congresswoman currently seeking the open U.S. Senate seat in her state. The first openly-lesbian woman to serve in Congress, Baldwin is a co-chair of the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus and author of the Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act of 2011, a proposal to provide employment benefits to the domestic partners of federal employees.

Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN), a third-term Congressman and a co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. On the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights page on his House website, Ellison notes that he is "proud to be vice-chair of the Congressional Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Caucus."

Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA), a tenth-term Congressman who recently proposed that the U.S. Navy should name a ship for the late Harvey Milk.

Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ), a fifth-term Congressman and a co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. Grijalva is a vice chair of the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus and praised a federal court ruling that there is no rational basis for banning same-sex unions, saying "I'm glad to see the importance of equal civil rights for all Americans reaffirmed by this ruling."

Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), a thirteenth-term Congressman who chaired the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee during the civil rights movement in the 1960s. On the LGBT Rights page on his House website, he says "I fought too long and too hard to end discrimination based on race and color, to not stand up against discrimination against our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters."

Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY), a tenth-term Congresswoman and author of the Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act, a proposal to provide same-sex couples with equal access to unpaid leave. The LGBT section on her Congressional website notes that back in 1986, she introduced the first domestic partnership legislation in New York State history, as a New York City Councilwoman.

Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), a fourth-term Congresswoman and author of the LGBT-inclusive Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2012. Her 2012 Pride Month statement and video highlighted her strong support for "equal rights for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity."

Rep. Fortney "Pete" Stark (D-CA), a twentieth-term Congressman and the author of the Every Child Deserves a Family Act, a proposal to ban discrimination against LGBT families in adoption and foster parenting. Upon received an award for outstanding service to the LGBT community from a group in his district, he noted "Significant strides have been made recently regarding LGBT rights, including the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell and the Obama Administration's refusal to defend the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act. Yet there is much more work to be done at the federal, state and local levels."

Rep. Barbara Lee

Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-NY), a fifteenth-term Congressman who will retire at the end of 2012. His House website includes an "It Gets Better" message to LGBT youth and a pride month proclamation that notes "The powerful movement for equal rights on behalf of the LGBT community has changed the course of our nation. LGBT Americans have done so much to advance the fundamental principles upon which our country was built – that all people are created equal and deserve equal rights and opportunities.

Rep. Lynn C. Woolsey (D-CA), a tenth-term Congresswoman and the author of the Domestic Violence Leave Act and Balancing Act of 2011, two proposals which included provisions providing emergency leave for same-sex domestic partners. The Civil Rights page on her House website notes "As a founding member of the Congressional Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Equality Caucus, I strongly support equal protection under the law for all people, regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation."

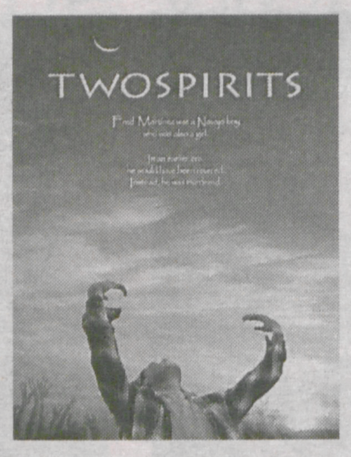
Lancaster events

Strictly Functional Pottery National Exhibit
Ends Nov. 4
20th Annual Strictly Functional Pottery National, a juried show of the best of American functional pottery. (717) 509-7547, Kevin Lehman's Pottery, 560 S. Prince Lancaster, PA 17603, http://www.klpottery.com

Café Latino Poetry Reading and Music
Nov. 16
This event, which will be held at 7 p.m. in Reighard Multipurpose Room in the Student Memorial Center, will feature an Open Mic Night. Members of the University community and general public are invited to share their creative works for an evening of poetry reading and musical performances. Light refreshments will be provided. (717) 871-2344, Millersville University, Reighard Multipurpose Room, Student Memorial Center, Millersville University, 1 S. George Street, Millersville, PA 17551

Maytown Winter Festival
Dec 8, 2012
FREE ADMISSION
Last year's inaugural "Maytown Winter Festival" was such a success that the Maytown Historical Society, the event sponsor, decided to do it again! This year's event will take place Saturday, December 8, 2012, from 10:00 AM until 4:00PM. Food and gift vendors will line parts of old High Street and circle the decorated square, while a variety of musical groups and costumed persons will perform and add a festive atmosphere to the day. "Jolly Olde St. Nicholas" and a German heritage folk character, the "Belsnickle", will also be present as a special seasonal treat for the children. (717) 426-2786, Loction is 4 West High Street, Maytown, PA 17550.

Tribal Marriage Equality Inspires Toolkit



The award-winning documentary about two-spirit people in Navajo culture.

Inspired by the Coquille and Suquamish Tribes' recent landmark decisions to recognize same-sex marriage, a cutting-edge legal guide has been developed to help tribal legislators strengthen LGBT equality in their governments and communities.

The guide, "Tribal Equity Toolkit: Tribal Resolutions and Codes to Support Two Spirit and LGBT Justice in Indian Country," is a first-of-its-kind collection of legal resources that helps tribal government officials identify discrimination in tribal codes and regulations and offers draft language to strengthen and promote LGBT equality. The toolkit was developed by the Indigenous Ways of Knowing Program at Lewis and Clark College in partnership with the Native American Program of Legal Aid Services of Oregon, Basic Rights Oregon, and the Western States Center. The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians also offered technical support to the project.

Although the final toolkit won't be released until November, the project's authors had a unique opportunity to present a draft to the general assembly of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, which is an association of the leadership 57 Northwest tribal governments. The toolkit covers a comprehensive range of legal areas where tribal leaders can improve the lives of LGBT tribal members. The family law section provides guides and sample language for marriage equality, adoption codes, visitation for LGBT parents, and even ways to strengthen the environment for LGBT native youth in the juvenile justice system. Other sections of the toolkit include employment nondiscrimination approaches, hate crime legislative options, housing nondiscrimination policies, and options to improve education, and health care.

Se-ah-dom Edmo, director of the Indigenous Ways of Knowing Program at Lewis & Clark College, stold the Indian Country Today Media Network that "our hope is to begin to construct a cohesive narrative about Two Spirit & LGBT Natives within our own Tribal communities and for those stories to compel us to take action."

Basic Rights Oregon also produced a new video called "Our Families: LGBT Two Spirit Stories," which tells the stories of LGBT tribal members and their families.

MCC column

By Rev. Lori Rivera, Pastor
MCC of the Spirit

Songs of the Seasons

I walked into a local office supply store a couple of weeks ago and had to just shake my head. The employees were putting out the Christmas products. I asked if they weren't a bit early since we were still 4 weeks away from Halloween. The clerk told me no, they have had the items in the store room since July. Thankfully they hadn't started piping in the holiday music yet.

Yet music plays an important part in our holidays. Even Thanksgiving has a traditional song written in the 1800 by Lydia Maria Child, "Over the River and Through the Woods." It begins "over the river and through the woods to grandfather's house we go" celebrating Lydia's memories of spending Thanksgiving at her grandfather's home. For me Thanksgiving wasn't complete without watching the 1934 version of "Babes in Toyland" with Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy and hearing the song "Toyland". My brothers and I would gather in front of the TV and watch the movie, we booed when Barnaby pig-napped one of the 3 pigs, got scared then the bogeymen appeared, cheered when the wooden soldiers saved Toyland and sang along with Mother Goose. This was the official start of the holiday season. (And yes I own a VHS copy of the movie and still watch it on Thanksgiving.)

Music is even more important as we arrive at the Christmas season. We sing songs of Advent proclaiming the coming of Jesus as a baby with so many expectations before him. Advent is a time of wonder and expectation and these feelings are reflected in our songs. We sing "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" rejoicing in the coming of Jesus. Our songs are full of excitement that God is coming among us.

When Christmas arrives we sing songs of Jesus' birth; of shepherds in the fields with their flocks and angels singing from the heavens and bright stars in the sky. We sing of Jesus lying in a lowly manger and of Mary and Joseph who still seem to be in wonder over all that is occurring in their lives and to their child. We sing of Wise Men who come to worship the new born king, Jesus the Christ. And we sing of the future and what Jesus means to each of us as children of God. Our songs are solemn, as in "Silent Night, Holy Night," as we strive to understand the significance of Jesus' birth. Yet our songs are also joyful when we sing, "Angels, from the Realms of Glory," and rejoice that the baby born so lowly is God among us and we choose to worship him. And we sing and rejoice and celebrate in our worship.

The choir of MCC of the Spirit, Voices of Spirit, began rehearsing in late September for our Christmas Cantata which will be Saturday, December 16 at 6 p.m. Sometimes it seems strange to already be singing "The First Noel" or "Away in the Manger" while our conversations having nothing to do with the Christmas season. It was like walking into that office supply store and seeing the Christmas card display in early October.

Yet it is our hope and prayer that we can convey through the music all the wonder, hope and joy that one encounters during the Advent and Christmas seasons. It is our hope and prayer that you will be mightily blessed during this season and that you will join us for worship on Sunday morning at 10am (the Advent season begins the first Sunday of December) and for our Christmas Cantata, Dec. 16. May the joy of the season be upon you and may the songs of the season lift and fill your heart!

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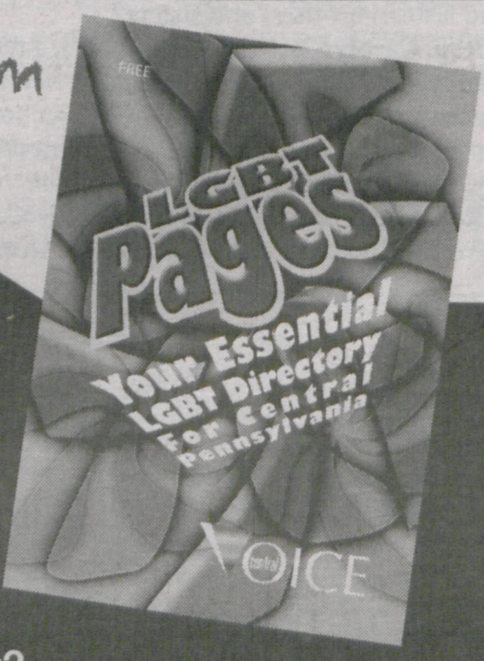

Coming Soon 2013 GUIDE

The Essential LGBT-friendly Directory for Central PA

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central VOICE

Sundance Benefit Shines

Despite the challenge of rain, Sundance, benefitting the LGBT Community Center and Alder Health Services, was a great party! The Sept. 30 rooftop event kicked off LGBT History Month.

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Game Show Night starts 9 pm

Sunday
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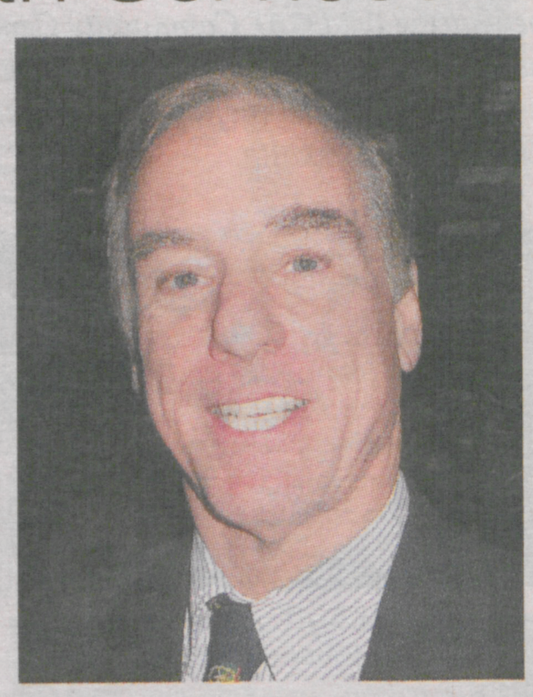
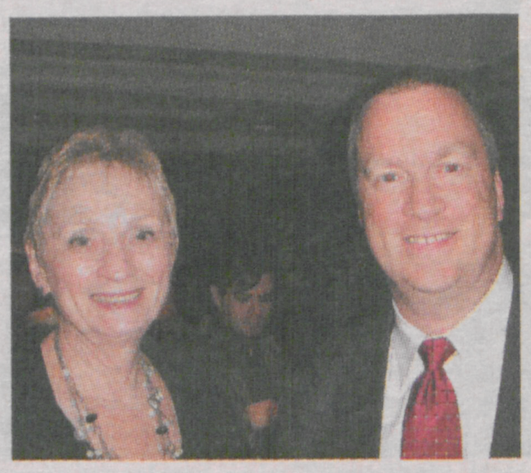
with Bloody Marys & Mimosas all afternoon
Basement open 6 pm with Big Mouth Bingo hosted by Mandi Lee Welsh 8 pm

Howard Dean Addresses Alder Health Services

44 people listened to former Vermont Gov., physician, and presidential candidate Howard Dean discuss health care reform and the coming changes under the Affordable Health Care Act. Alder Health Services sponsored the event that concluded with a breakfast briefing for staff.





Central Voice Photos

MakeSpace Offers Affordable Artist Studios

By Frank Pizzoli

MakeSpace, at 1916 N. Third Street, Harrisburg, is an affordable shared space for artists with private studios available for $85 a month.

The goal of the non-profit organization is "to connect the creative sector of Harrisburg with the tools necessary to begin and complete projects," according to Liz Larabee, project director. The organization is in the process of becoming a project of the Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC).

MakeSpace director Liz Larabee in first floor gallery space.

The three-story, 2,000 square foot row home in Olde Uptown, Harrisburg, is comprised of six private studios, two galleries, two mixed-use work spaces, and a common kitchen for member use. Each cspace is about 11x12 to 11x14 feet. "We're full," Larabee says, noting she has a waiting list. Gallery and kitchen space are shared.

"Acquiring the space meant renovating the property to meet safety standards, accommodate tenant needs, and cultivate a venue appropriate for curating events," Larabee explains. This work was taken on by the founding members, board members, and more than 80 volunteers.

Project documents state that MakeSpace is an arts-based community and economic development organization "centered in sparking creativity, developing partnerships, and resourcing the under-resourced."

"Our work is carried out by building support for the creative sector in Harrisburg and in providing practical solutions to roadblocks. Establishing shared work space was our first commitment to this effort and will be augmented by intentional and collaborative support of citywide culture," Larabee says.

Regarding the curation of events, MakeSpace has been asked to host, sponsor programs by other organizations, some of which no longer have their own space. For example, Moviate's popular film and documentary screenings, Mantis Collective's biannual "Odd Ones Holiday Biazrre" craft fair, Boat People and Tree Cover music cooperative shows, and Hodgepodgery workshops and skill shares.

Current Artists In Residence are artist and photographer Michael Fisher. He is focused on filmmaking, screenwriting and overall story telling through whatever mediums are available. He works as the Technical Director for the broadcasting of horse racing at Penn National Race Course.

Ian Kanski is a classically trained artist. As an independent business development consultant in the Information Technology industry, Ian has consistently chosen work with emerging business initiatives and start-up companies pursuing "disruptive" innovation. Kanski's work at MakeSpace includes portraiture, figure drawing, personal work in graphite, and mixed media.

A kitchen mural by artist Stephen Michael Haas.

Board, volunteers, and resident artists used inexpensive but creative means to renovate like pages from an old book as wallpaper.

Central Voice Photos

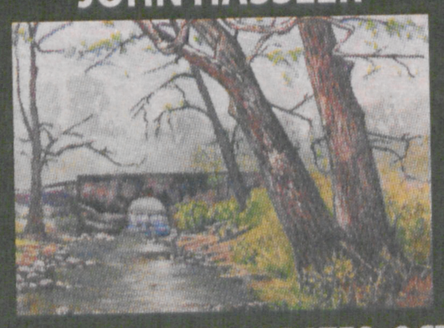
Catherine Rios is an artist and writer with a diverse creative background that originated with a love of glass in her native Pacific Northwest. She has collaborated on over 30 short films, which have screened at film festivals and museums throughout the country and internationally. Rios is teaches at Penn State Harrisburg. Rios' work includes paintings and mixed media sculpture that integrate glass, furniture, and found materials to explore light through perception and memory.

Director Liz Laribee is an artist

continued on page 24

GALLERY@SECOND

JOHN HASSLER



JEAN ZAUN

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Susquehanna Chorale Presents 2012-2013 Season

Central Pennsylvania's nationally renowned Susquehanna Chorale, directed by Linda L. Tedford, the ensemble's founder and artistic director, will perform a variety of concerts in diverse venues this season. With its award-winning choral artistry and stage presence, the Chorale will offer its signature blend of polished performance, varied repertoire and educational outreach, anticipated each year by audiences, students and collaborating artists.

Linda Tedford

Youth Choral Festival concert

The Susquehanna Youth, Young Women's and Children's Chorales---directed by George H. Diehl, Elizabeth Lins-Shoenfelt and Judith A. Shepler, respectively---will join the Susquehanna Chorale for the dynamic, intergenerational Annual Youth Choral Festival on Sunday, November 18, 4 p.m. at The Forum, 500 Walnut St., Harrisburg. Each choir will perform separately and then share the stage for a moving 200-voice finale of the famous "Anthem of Peace," arranged by American composer Mack Wilberg, music director of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. The student

continued on page 29

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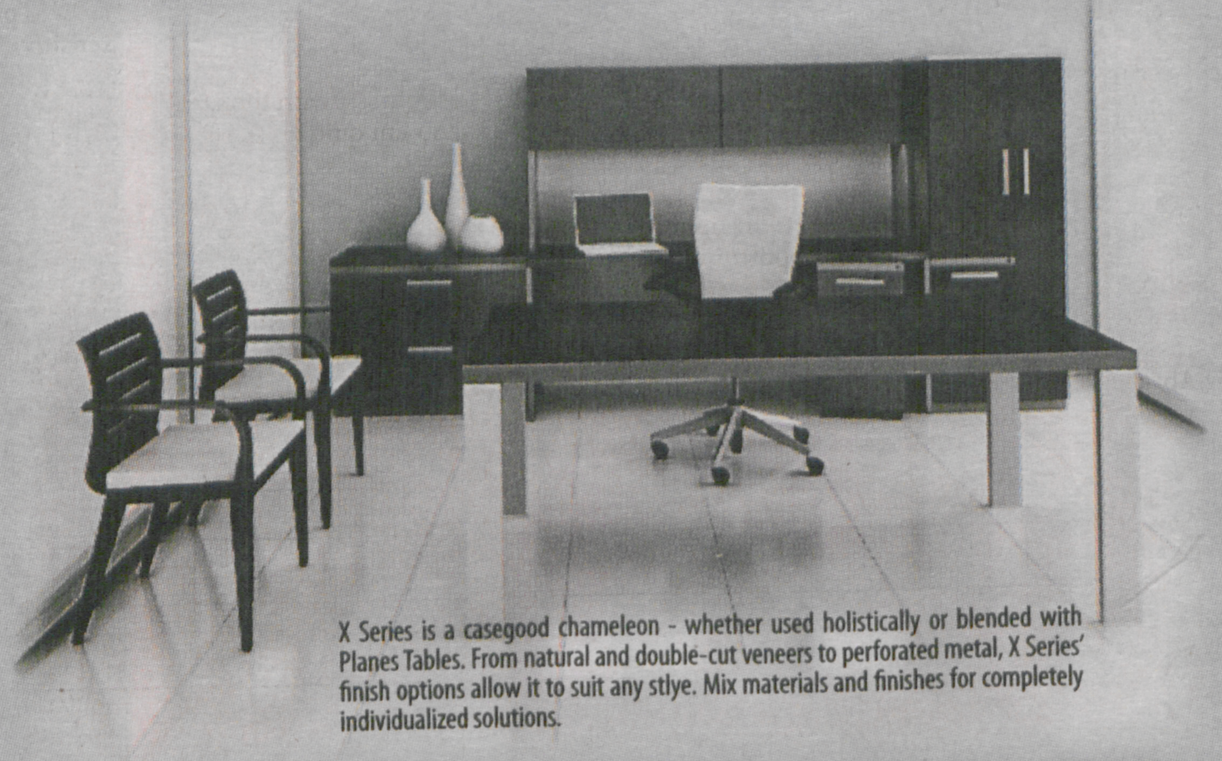

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Ally in the Academy

By Trum Simmons

Straights on a Scale

As you read this column the hype around the holiday season has already reached a high pitch, and you may be saying enough already!

At least the noise of the presidential campaign is finally over. What? Oh, wait—Now we're all trying to duck the torrent of post-election analysis. And those relentless political ads have been replaced by the noise of holiday advertising campaigns.

But let's face it: you can't get away from the noise, both literal and metaphorical. That is, unless you go off the grid for a few weeks, and I'm not certain that's really possible. (I can see it now—What happened to Trum? He was here just the other day, and now you say he's gone off the deep end? He's doing what for the holidays? Go talk some sense into him.)

Well, I have not gone off the grid and have in fact found myself very much in the present, very much engaged in the community I've lived in for more than 40 years now.

I could fill you in on my new role of grandfather, as my daughter has provided me with my very first grandchild, but I'd better just mention this and move on. My daughter moved back to central Pennsylvania to have the baby, and the arrival of Anya Simmons will greatly enhance our area.

More to the point, I joined the board of the LGBT Community Center in September, and I'm enthusiastic about being part of this important organization.

I've worked with Common Roads over the past few years and have attended the annual GSA Leadership Summit held at Dickinson College; I've also done safe zone training with center director Louie Marvin and look forward to doing more in all these areas.

I was honored to be nominated and chosen for the board position, and let me give you some inside information—one of the attributes the board was looking for is the fact that I'm a "straight male," and an ally. Members felt they needed one or two of us for the sake of diversity and inclusion.

I am certainly an ally, as are so many other heterosexuals in the region. Much has been written over the past few years about the importance of allies, especially those of us who come out as such and speak up instead of remaining silent supporters.

Yes, allies are important in the fight for LGBTQ understanding and equal rights. I've had some success over the years in encouraging straight folks to come out during October's Coming Out Day, but there is room for more openness and advocacy. There remains much work to be done.

I'm "straight," and please note the quotation marks. I have long held that there should be a Straight Scale similar to the famous Kinsey Scale. If there were, it would show a continuum with Straight and Narrow at one end and Straight and Wide at the other. (I suppose Straight but not Narrow would be in the middle. I have one of those pins, by the way.) Heterosexuals would range all along the continuum.

I think I'm pretty wide in terms of my world view and my comfort with the great diversity of human sexual and gender orientation and expression. So I'm quite to the right (or is it left?) of this continuum, and happy to be there.

Back to the holiday season. There are many reasons to love this time of year, what with family gatherings, good food and the opportunity to spread some love around.

The holidays afford us an opportunity to come together. This is so important, given the recent presidential campaign, which highlighted the differences and polarization that have become so acute in politics and culture over the past few years.

It's instructive to remember that the national day of Thanksgiving proclaimed by Abraham Lincoln in 1863 came in the midst of the Civil War and that Lincoln wanted Americans to reach across that divide and join in giving thanks for the many things that tie us together.

The fact that we are all human beings is much more important than any of our other characteristics, whether you're talking about politics, religion, social standing, sexual orientation or any other signifier. A good thing to remember during the time of year when we are also celebrating the universal message of peace on earth.

Trum Simmons is senior professor of English at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) and adviser of The Fourth Estate, the Harrisburg campus student newspaper. He also advises HACC Allies, the LGBTQA student organization.

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Ashley Hope, Louie Marven Visit with VP Biden

Advocate and activist Ashley Hope and Louie Marven, executive director, The LGBT Center of Central Pennsylvania, were among guests who attended the Sept. 19 End of Summer BBQ celebrating "the next generation of LGBT leaders" at Vice President and Dr. Biden's home in Washington, DC. They joined other emerging leaders from around the country.

Advocate and activist Ashley Hope, left, and Louie Marven, executive director, The LGBT Center of Central Pennsylvania, attended the End of Summer BBQ celebrating "the next generation of LGBT leaders" at Vice President and Dr. Biden's home in Washington, DC. They joined other emerging leaders from around the country.

Hope, a 25 year old transgender woman, is formerly from the region, having lived in Lancaster and Harrisburg, and is now a resident of Easton. A computer science major from Millersville University, Hope is currently a web site developer for a small Easton business. "I strive to find innovative ways to bring technology into my work as an lgbt activist," she says.

Highly active in college, Hope worked to establish a campus wide Safe Zone Program and coordinate a campus Silent Witness Chapter. She hosted numerous events and panels, and ensured gender neutral bathrooms were available on campus. More recently, she has worked with numerous community-based lgbt organizations as a guest speaker, workshop leader, and event hostess. Hope has also worked with several non-lgbt groups in the Lehigh Valley region to provide lgbt or transgender specific sensitivity training.

Hope says the most memorable part of her visit was meeting with national leaders of the LGBT movement, actually being able to sit and talk with the Human Rights Campaign, the National Center for Transgender Equality, the Gay and Lesbian Task Force, "and think tank groups like Think Progress which gave me a better perspective of the LGBT movement across the country, as well as helped me make connections to get more involved, to do more, to help more."

The event empowered Hope to move her activism into a new direction, "a more nationally based, bigger thinking sort of work," she says.

"There are many pressing needs in the lgbt community but much of my focus goes into establishing non-discrimination policies such as ENDA (Employment Non-discrimination Act) and in housing/renting. "I want to ensure lgbt individuals do not lose the livelihoods and their homes simply because of who they are," Hope says.

Preventing bullying of lgbt youth in schools is another issue important to Hope. "We are losing more and more innocent children every day to the 'silent epidemic' of bullying in schools," she says.

Hope readily sites Alder Health Services as a regional resource for lgbt individuals, members of the transgender community. "I am very familiar with Alder Health Services. The service is an amazing resource for the region," Hope says.

Citing Alder Health Services' value to the lgbt community, Hope says, "Without access to supportive and understanding services including mental and psychological services, numerous lgbt individuals either delay treatment of preventable conditions, or, in the example of a transgender person, turn to dangerous, illegal resources to get critical care such as hormones."

Perhaps even worse, Hope stresses, many transgender people may go to doctors who will deny them hormone replacement therapy for months if not years "based on the doctor's trans-phobia and bias". This can lead, she says, to even more suffering for transgender individuals.

Marven notes that "Vice President Biden spoke about his commitment to civil rights, acknowledged the one year anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell, and thanked us as young leaders for carrying on the work of making America a better place for all citizens."

Marven reports it was especially meaningful to hear from John Berry, who, as director of the Office of Personnel Management, is the highest-ranking openly gay staffer in the administration. Berry spoke about how change happens, Marven says, "and reminded us that it wasn't that long ago when government workers were witch hunted and fired for being gay." Berry recalled DC area activist Frank Kameny, who was fired from his position with the US Army Maps Service in 1957, and subsequently filed the first civil rights claim based on sexual orientation.

Terry Karanen Leads Spiritual Communities to Take Responsibility

By Frank Pizzoli

Terry Karanen is the spiritual leader of both Center for Spiritual Living Cumberland Valley and Unity of Harrisburg. He also writes a regular column for *Central Voice*.

Besides ministerial credentials, he holds social work graduate degree from Temple University. "As a licensed social worker I offer both spiritual and psychological individual and couples counseling to people both inside and outside my organizations," Karenan says.

The Center for Spiritual Living Cumberland Valley is part of what is known as the New Thought movement which has existed in our region for many years. The outlook on life combines philosophy, religion and science, out of which grew the churches of Divine Science, Unity and the Religious Science or Science of Mind, now called Centers for Spiritual Living.

As a philosophy, "New Thought presents a practical, down-to-earth way of thinking about the nature of the universe and our relationship to it," Karanen says.

As a religion, the belief system presents a philosophy that is both mentally stimulating and emotionally satisfying. As a science, it presents specific and definite ideas which you can demonstrate for yourself and directly experience the benefits in your life.

Karanen has developed two New Thought congregations: Unity of Harrisburg, 30 years old last month, and Center for Spiritual Living Cumberland Valley, now one year old. Nearby, Unity of Palmyra has been led by another Unity minister, Rev. Julie Vance, for over 11 years.

Karanen notes definite interest in our region. "But the majority of the population leans toward more traditional faiths if they are attending church, probably due to the more conservative area of the country in which we live," he observes. He explains that his congregations' belief in God is one of an all-encompassing energy, not the 'old man in the sky' that punishes us if we are bad and 'maybe' rewards us if we are good." This means we take responsibility for our experience without blaming God or anyone else. "To live a lifestyle that takes that much responsibility is not an easy one," Karanen says.

Karanen says many people, including gay people, crave a spiritual community that is loving, supportive and without judgment. "In New Thought churches and centers one can practice their own religion while using Universal Principles to live a happier, more productive and prosperous life," points out.

Organizations like his do not teach specific dogma and strict religious views. "Our way is not the way; it is our way. If your life is not working we encourage you to try what we practice. If it works for you instead of, or in addition to, your own religious or spiritual views, great. If not, take what works for you and leave the rest," he advises.

Terry Karanen

Specifically, Karanen's belief and way of life are based on meditation, prayer and affirmation that concentrate on solutions, not problems. Most people, he says, who feel that religion or church has damaged them in some way are used to faiths that require strict adherence to doctrine and rules. Instead, "we live our live through the principles of universal laws, such as the law of cause and effect. When you live by laws and rules you can run into problems if you don't have a regulation or chapter/verse to tell you to do," Karanen says, adding that if one lives by principles he can face any situation because within the application of the principle lies the course of action. "That action may be different from person to person, but it will be the right action for the individual at that given time."

Classes and workshops are held throughout the year to help people learn more about spiritual principles that promote a more positive way of life. Guest speakers and musical guests are also offered each year. Unity of Harrisburg's Health and Wellness Day in late summer/early fall is widely known for bringing together some of the best varieties of holistic practitioners in physical and spiritual healing techniques. Almost all events, classes and workshops are open to the public and offered at rates affordable to most. However, no one is turned away due to temporary inability to pay.

"Our Unity Sunday Celebration Services are supported totally by our members through tithes, gifts and donations of all sizes," Karanen says.

With such heavy historical emphasis on gay liberation being primarily "sexual," especially for Boomer men, how does New Thought provide an alternative?

"Humans are sexual creatures and that's not something from which New Thought shies away. Perhaps the alternative we provide is the liberation of the individual on all levels, including sexuality," Karenan says.

He's hoping within the next year to organize a men's group. Not a "gay men's group", just a men's group. "I know plenty of your GLBTQ readers will be aghast at that idea. Tough. Guys are guys, but so many gay men are terrified of being anything like a straight man, or at least their own hetero-

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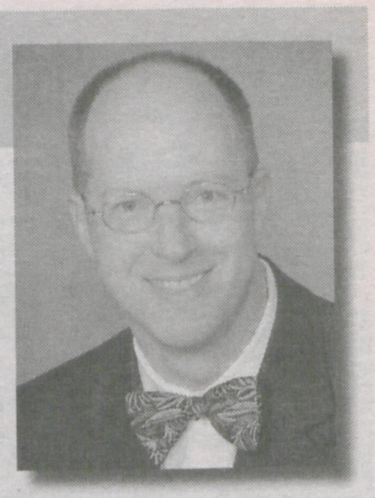
legal column

By Leo L. Dunn, Attorney at Law



Creating a Legal Safety Net for Same-Sex Families

While we were discussing second-parent adoptions and surrogacy, one of my law students asked a great question which I will answer here: If a young male couple walked into your office and told you they wanted to start a family, what documents would you recommend?

Assuming this young couple had not yet done anything regarding formalizing their relationship or obtaining children, I would do a recommendation by tiers.

The first tier would be formalizing their relationship and protecting each other. The first document would be a domestic partnership agreement – this is roughly equivalent to a prenuptial agreement. The document lists how the two will combine households, what assets they each bring into the relationship, how household duties and expenses will be allocated, what types of new acquisitions will be considered jointly owned property, and how assets will be divided in the event of the relationship ending. No mention of intimacy would be mentioned. This document is a pure contract regarding duties, acquisition and division of property. The other documents in tier one would be a health care directive (living will), a HIPAA waiver, a power of attorney for finances, and a will. The health care directive would include a disposition of remains provision and the will would contain a guardianship of minor children provision.

The second tier would be setting the stage for being parents. The first document here would be a joint custody agreement. This establishes a written record of the couple's desire to be parents and clearly states that if the relationship ends at any time after activities to acquire a child start, both are responsible for any expenses incurred from prior to conception until the child becomes an adult. This means that each has the right to child custody and the responsibility to pay child support if their relationship terminates. The next documents would be guardianship agreements to designate the other partner as being the legal guardian of any minor children in the event of death of the parent. At this point, trusts would be created to take control of any assets going to minor children in the event the parent died. The control of the trust would be vested in the surviving partner. This forestalls a family member trying to get custody of the child in order to get control of the financial assets as well as to "get their grandchild away from that gay."

The third tier would be getting ready to have a child. The goal here is to create a situation where the only two people with any claim to the child are the two male clients. The best ways to do this are by adopting a child whose biological parents' rights have already been terminated by the court or by having a surrogate carry the egg of an unknown donor to term.

Adoption is easier and less expensive but does not give either parent a biological connection to the child. First, one partner would adopt the child. Then the second parent would go through the second parent adoption process. Some courts will do both adoptions simultaneously.

Surrogacy is complicated, expensive and fraught will peril for the careless or unwary. I would never advise clients to use a relative or friend as a surrogate and NEVER as an egg donor. Egg donor surrogates are mothers and seem to easily get out of surrogacy contracts and retain not only custody of the child but also obtain child support if either of the clients provided the sperm. Talk about a bad deal that continues for life. The best thing to do is work with an attorney who specializes in this area (not me, one of my friends does this). You need donor agreements where all rights are relinquished by the donor(s), a surrogacy agreement with the carrier, a court order declaring both partners to be the child's parents prior to birth, and a birth certificate with both partners listed as the parents.

The fourth tier would be protecting the child's relationship with the parents after birth if a surrogacy was used. In this case, assuming one of the men is the sperm donor, you would go to court to get a court order creating a second parent adoption of the child by the other parent. Yes, this is redundant, but a court order must be accepted by another state, a birth certificate does not.

All in all a very expensive process and it only gives a 90 percent chance of not being able to be overcome in court depending on the jurisdiction and judge. My advice to a female couple would be very similar though with a few twists. The lesson is that one must be very careful and plan in advance!

Leo Dunn is an attorney and counselor-at-law practicing in Harrisburg area with a focus on the estate planning needs of the GLBT community. He may be reached at leo@leodunnlaw.com or 717-503-1207.

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Controversial Gay-Parenting Study Is Severely Flawed, Journal's Audit Finds

By Tom Bartlett

Mark Regnerus

The peer-review process failed to identify significant, disqualifying problems with a controversial and widely publicized study that seemed to raise doubts about the parenting abilities of gay couples, according to an internal audit scheduled to appear in the November issue of the journal, Social Science Research, that published the study.

The highly critical audit, a draft of which was provided to The Chronicle by the journal's editor, also cites conflicts of interest among the reviewers, and states that "scholars who should have known better failed to recuse themselves from the review process."

Since it was published last month, the study, titled "How Different Are the Adult Children of Parents Who Have Same-Sex Relationships?," has been the subject of numerous news articles and blog posts. It has been used by opponents of same-sex marriage to make their case, and it's been blasted by gay-rights activists as flawed and biased.

The study's author, Mark Regnerus, an associate professor of sociology at the University of Texas at Austin, even made the cover of The Weekly Standard. In the illustration, he is strapped to a Catherine wheel that's being tended by masked torturers.

Darren E. Sherkat

Like Regnerus, the editor of Social Science Research, James D. Wright, has been at the receiving end of an outpouring of anger over the paper. At the suggestion of another scholar, Wright, a professor of sociology at the University of Central Florida, assigned a member of the journal's editorial board—Darren E. Sherkat, a professor of sociology at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale—to examine how the paper was handled.

Sherkat was given access to all the reviews and correspondence connected with the paper, and was told the identities of the reviewers. According to Sherkat, Regnerus's paper should never have been published. His assessment of it, in an interview, was concise: "It's bullshit," he said.

Among the problems Sherkat identified is the paper's definition of "lesbian mothers" and "gay fathers"—an aspect that has been the focus of much of the public criticism. A woman could be identified as a "lesbian mother" in the study if she had had a relationship with another woman at any point after having a child, regardless of the brevity of that relationship and whether or not the two women raised the child as a couple.

Sherkat said that fact alone in the paper should have "disqualified it immediately" from being considered for publication.

In his audit, he writes that the peer-review system failed because of "both ideology and inattention" on the part of the reviewers (three of the six reviewers, according to Sherkat, are on record as opposing same-sex marriage). What's more, he writes that the reviewers were "not without some connection to Regnerus," and suggests that those ties influenced their reviews.

He declined to be more specific in an interview, saying that he was obligated to protect their identities. "Obviously," he concluded, "the reviewers did not do a good job."

At the same time, he sympathizes with the task of the overburdened reviewer inclined to skim. Because of how the paper was written, Sherkat said, it would have been easy to miss Regnerus's explanation of who qualified as "lesbian mothers" and "gay fathers." If a reviewer were to skip ahead to the statistics in the table, it would be understandable, he said, to assume that the children described there were, in fact, raised by a gay or lesbian couple for a significant portion of their childhoods.

In reality, only two respondents lived with a lesbian couple for their entire childhoods, and most did not live with lesbian or gay parents for long periods, if at all.

The information about how parents are labeled is in the paper. Regnerus writes that he chose those labels for "the sake of brevity and to avoid entanglement in interminable debates about fixed or fluid orientations." Sherkat, however, called the presentation of the data "extremely misleading." Writes Sherkat: "Reviewers uniformly downplayed or ignored the fact that the study did not examine children of identifiably gay and lesbian parents, and none of the reviewers noticed that the marketing-research data were inappropriate for a top-tier social-scientific journal."

He also had harsh words for an accompanying paper in the same issue by Loren D. Marks, an associate professor of family, child, and consumer sciences at Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge. Marks wrote a review of papers that had been published on the children of same-sex parents, taking the authors of those papers to task for using "small convenience samples" that are not generalizable, among other failings.

Sherkat writes that the Marks paper is "a lowbrow meta-analysis of studies" that was "inappropriate for a journal that publishes original quantitative research." Sherkat, in an interview, said that Marks didn't perform a true meta-analysis of the studies and instead simply wrote summaries of the results. Marks could not be reached for comment.

That said, Sherkat did not find that the journal's normal procedures had been disregarded, or that the Regnerus paper had been inappropriately expedited to publication, as some critics have charged. He also vigorously defended Wright, the editor. "If I were in Wright's shoes," he writes, "I may well have made the same decisions."

Because the reviewers were unanimously positive, Wright had little choice but to go ahead with publication, according to Sherkat. He goes on: "My review of the editorial processing of the Regnerus and Marks papers revealed that there were no gross violations of editorial procedures—the papers were peer-reviewed, and the 'peers' for papers on this topic were similar to what you would expect at Social Science Research."

As for accusations that Wright was part of a conservative conspiracy, as some have suggested, Sherkat deems that "ludicrous."

Sherkat was an early critic of the paper, even before he was chosen to conduct the audit. He also said in an interview that he had "little respect for conservative religiosity" and believes that Regnerus and some other socially conservative scholars push a political agenda in their academic work. In a paper published last year, he wrote about how religion and political affiliation affects support for same-sex marriage.

James D. Wright

"There should be reflection about a conservative scholar garnering a very large grant from exceptionally conservative foundations," he writes in the audit, "to make incendiary arguments about the worthiness of LGBT parents—and putting this out in time to politicize it before the 2012 United States presidential election."

Sherkat considers Regnerus to be "a

continued on page 24

Karanen continued from page 22

phobic idea of a straight man," Karanen says.

He feels that the more differences we look for in any situation will reap rewards upon which to build more hatred, bias and prejudice. "The opposite is also true. I'm seeing a men's group for adult men. It won't be for everyone and that's fine. My ministry and my personality is not for everyone either, and I'm also perfectly comfortable with that face," Karanen says of himself.

One of the leaders of the New Thought movement, and a gay man himself, responded to a statement about teachings like Karanen's. "He said that it wasn't that our teachings weren't for everyone, it's that not everyone is for our teachings. That's similar to 12-step programs. They will work for everyone, but not everyone is willing to have that kind of a healing," Karanen said.

What has it been like for Karanen to serve as a pastor of a church? What is the spiritual or religious framework of his congregation?

When he founded his first church nearly 20 years ago in Pittsburgh, Karanen made it clear he was not a gay minister. "I'm a minister who is gay. There's a difference. The fact that I'm a gay man is only part of who I am," he says. My congregation is aware of my relationship and doesn't blink an eye when their pastor refers to a husband instead of a wife. His ministry and life do not revolve around his sexual orientation.

In a recent press release, the international headquarters for Centers for Spiritual Living came out in favor of marriage equality. The Unity Worldwide Ministries has had a diversity policy in effect since 1995 that includes sexual orientation. New Thought organizations have always enjoyed a great diversity of races, cultures, ages, genders and sexual orientations.

"We are inclusive congregations and do not differentiate between being a 'straight church' or a 'gay church.' Our churches and centers have pastors of all sexual orientations, including at least one Center for Spiritual Living transgender pastor that I know personally," Karanen says.

Karanen must be addressing real needs. "Our Sunday services at Unity are growing with single people of all sexual orientations (not that I check particularly), couples and families with children, and our classes larger than we've seen in a long time," he says.

"We offer people a place to receive loving support in being all they can be. It's not a magic pill or a get-rich-quick scheme," he points out. Taking responsibility for our lives and our future, he says, is not for everyone.

"Most people would rather hope God will fix things or blame the devil or someone else for their problems. We are about empowering the individual to awaken to their magnificence. I don't preach, give sermons, teach lessons or have a message for you," Karanen says.

Karanen's Sunday talks are available online at the Unity of Harrisburg website. Info: terry@newthoughtpa.org; www.newthoughtpa.org; www.unityofharrisburg.org

Controversial continued from page 23

bright young scholar," and, years ago, he wrote a letter of recommendation for him. Sherkat believes that Regnerus, whom he has known for two decades, made a decision to push a conservative political agenda in his academic work a number of years ago, and that this paper is evidence of it.

Regnerus wrote in a blog post that he is "at a point in my career where I'm less concerned about making my professional peers happy."

Regnerus declined to sit for an interview, citing the University of Texas' continuing inquiry into the paper. But when asked by e-mail if Sherkat was a fair arbiter in this case, he replied: "He was appointed to undertake the audit. I won't offer subjective perceptions of fairness or lack thereof."

Wright, the editor, provided The Chronicle with a draft of his response to the controversy, which will also appear in the November issue of the journal. He writes that two of the six reviewers were paid consultants to the New Family Structures Study, of which this paper is a part (in addition, two of the three commentators on the paper in the journal had been paid consultants on the new-family study, a fact that was divulged at the time the paper was published).

Wright mentions that they made this known to him, assured him it would not affect their judgment, and said that he trusts his reviewers to "check their ideological guns at the referee's door." He notes, too, that it's not unusual for scholars who have been consultants at some point on a project to later serve as referees.

Wright has suffered sleepless nights since the publication of Regnerus's paper, and has received a steady stream of angry e-mails, from both colleagues and irate strangers. In his response, he writes that accusations that he was trying to foster gay-bashing are "hurtful and preposterous" and that he also believes, along with critics of the paper, in civil rights for gay people and lesbians.

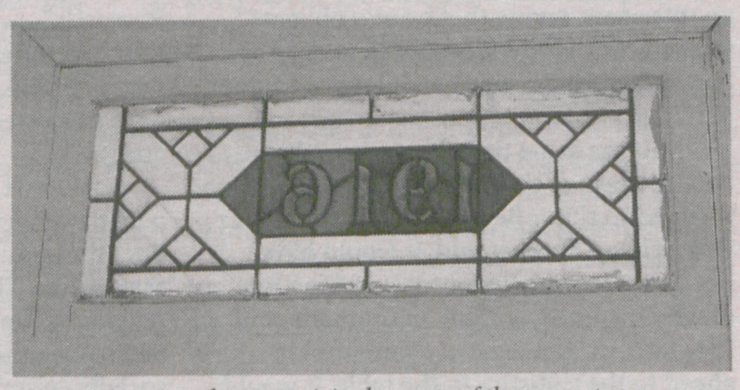
In his audit, Sherkat reveals that all the reviewers declared that the paper would generate "enormous interest." Enormous interest leads to citations and downloads, which is how a journal's relevance is judged. The higher the impact of its papers, the greater its prestige. Wright acknowledges that he was excited about the interest the paper would no doubt inspire, and he wonders in retrospect if "perhaps this prospect caused me to be inattentive to things I should have kept a keener eye on."

That excitement was backed up by unanimous positive support from all reviewers. As Sherkat writes: "[I]t is unfair to expect Wright to hear the warning sirens when none were sounded by the reviewers."

Wright points out (as Regnerus himself wrote) that the paper could be read as supportive of gay marriage because it seems to indicate that more-stable households produce less-troubled children. "This does not sound like spiteful gay-bashing to me," Wright contends in his response. "It sounds like a perfectly reasonable conclusion."

MakeSpace continued from page 19

and writer. An interest in using the whole buffalo has shaped her creative process, and she does a considerable amount of work with discarded or repurposed materials. She has shown and sold her work through solo and collaborative shows, as well as through commission. She also teaches workshops and classes on recycled art, creative writing, and redactive poetry to students of all ages. Laribee's work includes cardboard portraiture, repurposed handcrafts, photography, and a real effort to tackle carpentry, painting, and her first book.



Renovations saved many original aspects of the property.

Amanda Owens is a costume designer and artist with an infinite love for textiles and the absurd. Her artistic artillery includes a passion for the intersection of highbrow and lowbrow culture. and a BA in Art History from Messiah College. Amanda has collaborated on several productions and projects for Gamut Theatre, including their most recent production of Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet." Owens' work at MakeSpace will include costume and clothing design, jewelry, and sundry other projects.

Leah Yancoskie is an artist, photographer and ceramist with experience in custom picture framing and restoration. She uses a wide variety of materials and often finds innovative ways to create her pieces with non-traditional materials . Her primary subject matter is the human form, in particular the female figure. Yancoskie hopes to use her time at MakeSpace to further investigate the borders of human emotion in her work. She also would like to continue to push her three- dimensional work further and experiment with new mediums and techniques.

Board Members are Tashya Dalen, Franklin and Marshall Writers House; Andrew Enders, Keckler Heitefuss Brandt Insurance; Lynn Everhart, Silence of Mary Interfaith Family Home; Lori Fortini, WCI Partners; Jeff Lynch, self-employed commercial filmmaker and advertiser; Catherine McCormick, communications educator, Penn State Harrisburg; Catherine Rios, film educator, Penn State Harrisburg.
Contact: Liz Larabee @ lizepiphany@gmail.com.

The KEYSTONE CONFERENCE
A Celebration of Gender Diversity
March 13th-16th, 2013 in Harrisburg, PA

Keystone Conference

Plans are underway for the 5th Annual Keystone Conference, "A Celebration of Gender Diversity", at the Sheraton Harrisburg/Hershey Hotel March 13-16, 2013. Online registration for attendees opens December 15.

Submit Workshop

Conference planners are accepting proposals for workshops and seminars for a variety of topics that will appeal to transgender individuals, their families, friends and allies. Keystone 2012 received 425 attendees that came from the entire spectrum of the gender community, their supporters and those that serve them professionally- including physicians, psychologists, counselors, and educators. Attendees ranged in age from eight to eighty-seven!

The mission of the workshop program is to encourage attendees to fully embrace the unique diversity and gifts of transgender people and to help them find acceptance and success in their lives. If you are interested in being a participant of the 2013 Keystone Conference, please click on the link below. Scheduling presenters and workshops begins in December and the schedule will be complete by February.

Workshop deadline is December 15.

Info: www.Keystone-Conference.org

Whitaker Center Names Development Director

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts Board of Directors recently named Harrisburg native Michele Holloway as Director of Development. Holloway will lead the overall operation of the Center's entire fundraising effort, including membership, special events and an active volunteer program.

"We are pleased that Michele Holloway has joined our leadership team," said Dr. Michael Hanes, Whitaker Center President and CEO. "Michele possesses a breadth and depth of experience as well as many years of successful fundraising in Central Pennsylvania. I look forward to working with her to advance our vision for Whitaker Center."

Holloway brings many years of non-profit leadership experience specializing in income development to Whitaker Center. Previously, she worked for the American Cancer Society for 10 years as the Executive Director for the American Cancer Society in the Harrisburg area, and later as the Regional Manager for South Central Pennsylvania.

Holloway grew up in the Harrisburg area, graduated from Cumberland Valley High School, and went on to graduate from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science degree. She lives in Mechanicsburg with her husband and two children, where she is actively involved in her community as Secretary of Hampden Elementary PTO and as a Board Member of Cumberland Valley Youth Lacrosse.

Central Voice Look Back: Rev. Al Sharpton

MSNBC recently celebrated a one year anniversary of the cable channel's "6 p.m. hour" with a room full of honchos and on-air personalities. One them, the Rev. Al Sharpton, said about his old persona: "I don't know if I would have brought Al Sharpton on to do a show!" A strong supporter of gay civil rights, Sharpton is shown here in 2004 when he visited downtown Harrisburg during a Kerry-Edwards rally. "Human rights is for everybody," he said that day, despite the fact that many African-American leaders do not support gay civil rights.

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8 pm

***HERE COMES THE KID:* Arlo Guthrie**
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8 pm

An Evening with Rita Coolidge
Two-time Grammy® winner
Friday, December 14
8 pm

Whitaker Center Presents at the Forum Get The Led Out
The American Led Zeppelin
Saturday, December 29
8 pm

Johnny Winter and Magic Slim & The Teardrops
Legendary blues guitarist
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Whitaker Center Presents at the Forum David Sedaris
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Creep of the Week: Scott Brown

By D'Anne Witkowski

There are a few things you should know about United States Senator Scott Brown. First, he's a Republican. Second, he currently represents Massachusetts in D.C. after he replaced Sen. Ted Kennedy, a Democrat, in a special election held after Kennedy's death in 2010. Third, Brown is currently campaigning to keep his seat against the formidable Elizabeth Warren, a Democrat. And, finally, Brown is no friend to LGBT people (Warren is, though, FYI).

Oh, and he also posed naked (with a wrist positioned chastely over his junk) for a Cosmo magazine in 1982 when he was 22, which is probably the least offensive thing he's ever done. (Fun side note: if Warren had done the same thing, her political career would be D.O.A. Aren't double standards fun?)

While Brown's campaign is currently focused on proving that Warren is a "fake Indian," make no mistake that his election would not just be terrible for people who have Native American ancestry but "look white." It would also be a raw deal for LGBT Americans.

Massachusetts may be the state that brought legal marriage for gays and lesbians to America, but Brown believes that "marriage is between a man and a woman." Granted, he told CNN's Piers Morgan that "it's settled law in Massachusetts quite frankly and people have moved on," but really, Brown hasn't. At least not to the point that he's willing to let his state's married gay and lesbian couples be recognized nationwide. Brown supports the Defense of Marriage Act and also supported Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's use of a 1913 anti-interracial marriage law to keep couples from outside of the state from coming to Massachusetts to get hitched.

Brown also does not support the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (because, you know, "states' rights"), repeatedly voted in favor of an anti-gay constitutional amendment in Massachusetts, and essentially gave the middle finger to LGBT youth by refusing to participate in the It Gets Better video made by the Massachusetts Congressional delegation.

I suppose his absence isn't that surprising considering that, according to MassEquality.org, "In 2001 during a session of the Massachusetts legislature, Brown referred to the decision of then state Senator Cheryl Jacques, to have children [with her domestic partner Jennifer Chrisler] as 'not normal.' He also described her parenting role as 'alleged family responsibilities.'"

Get it? Because she's a lesbian her family doesn't really count, so her "family responsibilities" are play-pretend.

Oh, and according to Think Progress, Brown once attributed his opposition to gay marriage to "a personal belief, based on my religious upbringing. It's just my feeling." In other words, "I oppose marriage equality because I feel like it."

Elizabeth Warren, on the other hand, is out and proud about her support for LGBT equality. According to Think Progress, Warren said, "As other states grapple with whether to support marriage equality, I'm ready to move to the next step: End the two-tiered system created by the Defense of Marriage Act. Our federal government should not be in the business of selecting which married couples it supports and which it treats with contempt."

As RuPaul would say, "Can I get an amen up in here?"

Massachusetts, please don't let us down.

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The information contained in this advertisement is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. The statements are general and the circumstances of each case may implicate different areas of the law not herein mentioned.

Sierra Club Objects to Parks System Firing

Submitted by Jeff Schmidt
Sierra Club PA Chapter

Sierra Club condemns the firing of Pennsylvania's State Parks Director John Norbeck by the Corbett administration. Norbeck has dedicated more than 30 years of his professional life to protecting public lands. We are concerned that the Corbett administration sacked Mr. Norbeck for resisting its plans to compromise our public lands for short-term commercial gain.

We now know that DCNR is planning to open our award-winning State Park system to commercial timbering, surface mining, and gas drilling. Norbeck worked to limit these activities, and he has now paid the price by losing his job, while trying to defend our public lands from exploitation.

We are concerned that the Corbett administration will replace more dedicated conservation professionals in DCNR with political cronies that have no experience managing public lands. These political appointments can pave the way for the mining, timber and natural gas industries to invade and exploit our precious parks and forests with impunity. We don't think that campaign contributions to Gov. Corbett should drive policy decisions to overturn long-standing protections of our parks and forests.

We urge the Corbett Administration to halt its purge of conservation professionals.

We urge the General Assembly to investigate the firing of Mr. Norbeck to determine whether any improper actions occurred."

Great Weekends in Vermont

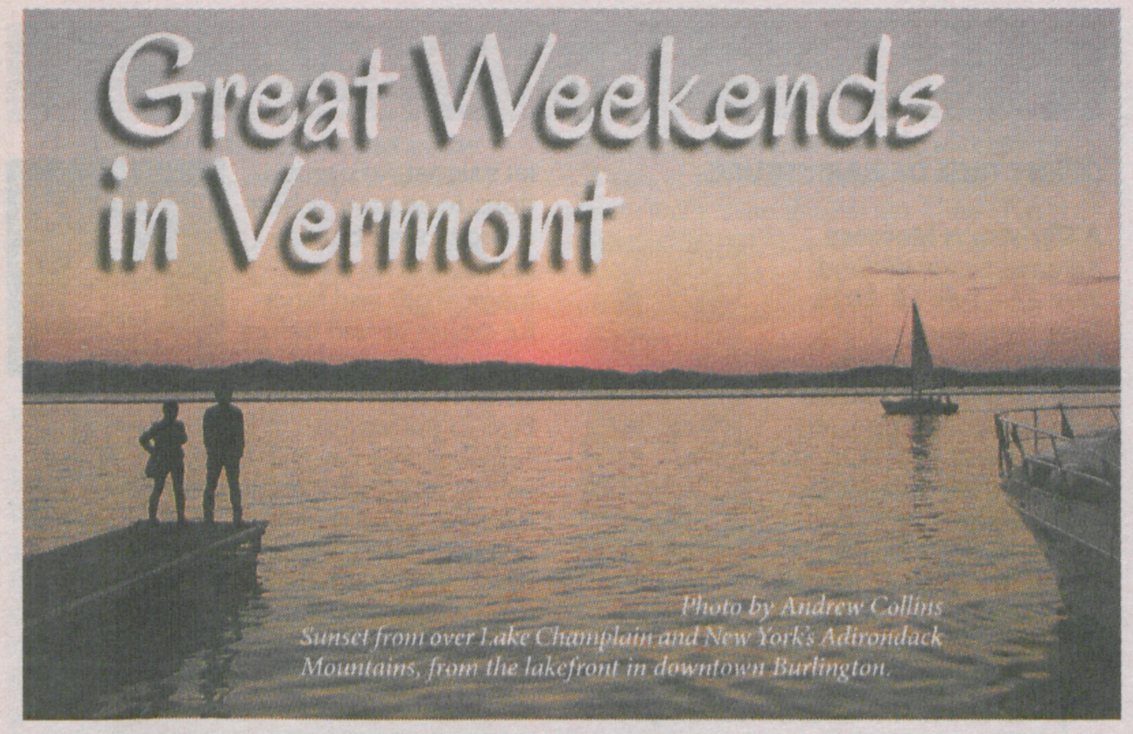

Photo by Andrew Collins
Sunset from over Lake Champlain and New York's Adirondack Mountains, from the lakefront in downtown Burlington.

OUT OF TOWN
by Andrew Collins

In 2000, Vermont became the first state to legally sanction civil unions for same-sex couples, and in 2009, the state extended full marriage rights to gays and lesbians. Although neighboring states now also have gay marriage, Vermont has remained a favorite romance destination among LGBT travelers, some coming here to exchange nuptials, and others visiting simply to enjoy this stunningly scenic state's relaxed pace, mild and wild recreational opportunities, charming inns and B&Bs, and superb restaurants that emphasize local - often organic - ingredients.

From north to south, this narrow swath of forests, meadows, and mountains has plenty to offer, with several key regions making excellent hubs for exploring. In southwestern Vermont, close to both the Berkshires of Massachusetts and the Albany region of upstate New York, the town of Manchester is a favorite weekend getaway - it's home to dozens of outlet shops, but beyond these mostly expected retail establishments you'll find a charming downtown with some great restaurants, plus several historic attractions and well-known ski areas. Just a two- to three-hour drive from Boston, the Upper Connecticut River Valley is rich in culture and outdoor recreation. And along the shores of rippling Lake Champlain, you'll find Vermont's largest community, Burlington, a lively and liberal college town that's also an excellent base for great skiing at several resorts, including nearby Stowe.

Although Vermont has a quite high proportion of LGBT residents, it's a relatively sparsely populated state. Nightlife options are minimal, although Burlington has some fun bars on or near downtown's Church Street pedestrian mall, all of which are ostensibly gay-friendly. Vermont is ideal for couples seeking romance or groups of friends looking for both warm- or winter-time outdoors adventures.

It's very easy to find information on planning gay weddings and other trips to Vermont - sites including VermontGayTravel.com and VermontGayTourism.com provide excellent guidance and list welcoming businesses, and the official state tourism site, VermontVacation.com, is great for general trip-planning information.

Burlington and Stowe

The largest city in America's first state to legalize same-sex civil unions, Burlington is home to University of Vermont and claims the state's most visible gay community. It's just 100 miles south of Montreal and enjoys a stunning setting, with Lake Champlain on one side, and the rugged Green Mountains on the other. Visitors appreciate the vast opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, plus downtown's network of redbrick sidewalks, cozy coffeehouses, great music and bookstores, and affordable eateries.

Just 35 miles away, Stowe ranks among the nation's best ski getaways, but this charming, gay-friendly village offers a genuine balance of outdoor and indoor fun. An abundance of plush lodges and inns, sophisticated eateries, and first-rate spas contribute to the town's ardent following. And shoppers appreciate Stowe's many one-of-a-kind shops.

Stowe is popular all winter with gay visitors, especially in late January (Jan. 23 to 27 in 2013), when the town is host to Winter Rendezvous (mjwadventures.com/winterrendezvous_index.php), a five-day gay ski gathering that draws enthusiasts from throughout New England and includes not just skiing and snowboarding but also a wealth of other activities, as well as parties and entertainment.

Where to Stay

In Burlington, the Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor (marriott.com) and Hilton Burlington (hilton.com) are both great, gay-friendly chain properties with central locations, large rooms, and friendly service. Just 6 miles south on a secluded peninsula overlooking Lake Champlain, the elegant Inn at Shelburne Farms (shelburnefarms.org) occupies a former Vanderbilt summer home and now contains 24 rooms and suites furnished very much in the style of the Gilded Age. The surrounding 1,400-acre working farm include a working dairy - note that the inn is closed mid-fall to mid-spring.

The quaint town of Waterbury, famous for Ben & Jerry's ice cream, is convenient both to Burlington and Stowe and contains one of the best gay-owned accom-

continued on page 30

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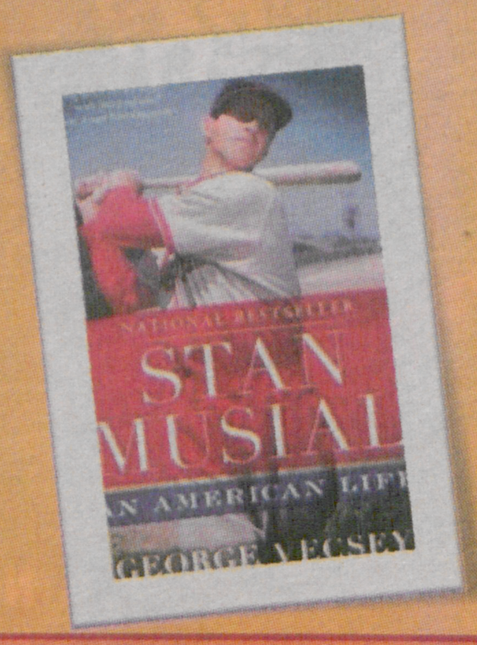

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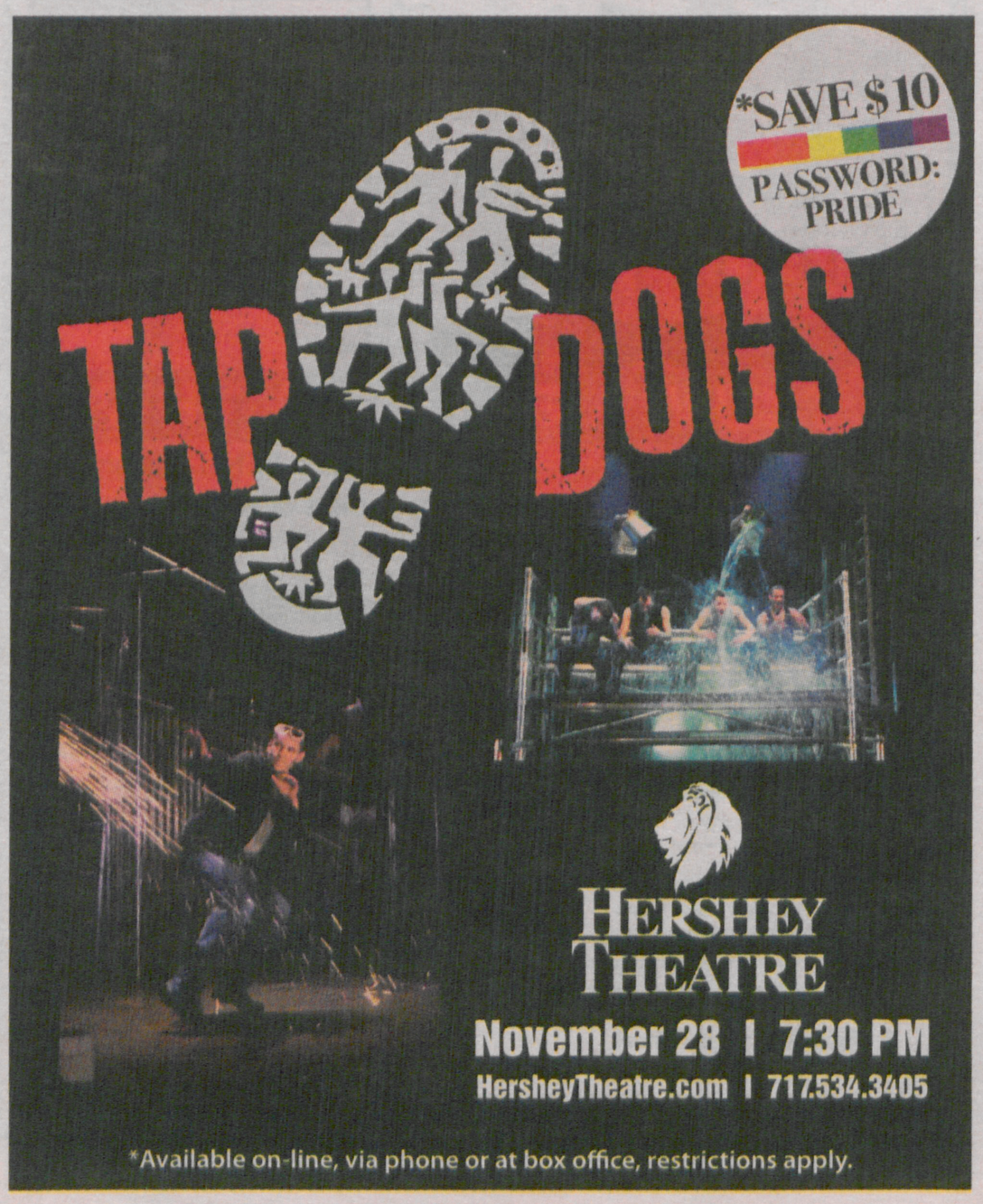

arts & entertainment

OPEN STAGE OF HARRISBURG

A Christmas Memory
Adapted by Jim Woland
Nov 23 – Dec 15, 2012
They were each other's family…Young Buddy and his sprightly cousin Miss Sook collect pecans from a nearby orchard and save up their pennies for candied fruits, aromatic spices, butter, sugar, flour, and whiskey. It's fruitcake weather! In this humble autobiographical tale, Capote recalls his impoverished youth in the rural South during the Great Depression and reminds us how important it is to spend time with loved ones, carrying on our own traditions. A truly poignant memory play for all ages.
Tickets: 717-232-Open (6736)

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Anything Goes
December 6 - 22
One of best scores ever written, broadly drawn comic characters and a plot as light as helium is guaranteed to lift audience spirits to giddy heights. Cole Porter's immortal songs include "Blow, Gabriel, Blow," "You're the Top,""It's De-Lovely,""Easy to Love,""I Get a Kick Out of You" and the infectious title tune. Book passage now for this perennially popular 1934 musical that is still packing them in on Broadway. Winner of the 2011 Tony for Best Revival.
Info: 717-733-7966; sharadinbiglertheater.com

HERSHEY THEATRE

Irving Berlin's White Christmas
November 4 - 11, 2012
Get ready to discover a delightful new show that's as fresh and rare as newly fallen snow! The classic holiday tradition White Christmas comes to the stage at last, as a brand new Irving Berlin musical direct from Broadway. Brimming with such Berlin hits as "Blue Skies,""How Deep is the Ocean?" and, of course, the unforgettable title song. Irving Berlin's White Christmas tells the story of two showbiz buddies putting on a show in a magical Vermont inn and finding their perfect mates in the bargain. Full of dancing, laughter and some of the greatest songs ever written, Irving Berlin's White Christmas promises to be a merry and bright theatrical experience for the whole family!
Tickets: 717-534-3405, 1-800-745-3000, HersheyTheatre.com.

Hershey Theatre
Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet presents George Balanchine's The Nutcracker
Dec. 15-16
The Capital Region's Holiday Tradition George Balanchine's timeless yuletide tale is one of Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet's signature productions. In an atmosphere charged with holiday spirit, a festive party, magical gift and fanciful dream unfold before your eyes in this most beloved masterpiece.

Bask in the warmth of family cheer as Tchaikovsky's familiar score glitters and comes to life with opulent costumes and dazzling sets. Whether a holiday tradition or a first-time discovery, CPYB's production is an annual gift every family will want to be part of.
Tickets: 717-534-3405, 1-800-745-3000, HersheyTheatre.com.

WHITAKER CENTER

Sunoco Performance Theater
Nov. 5, 8 .m.
The Capitol Steps began as a group of Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them. The group was born in December, 1981 when some staffers for Senator Charles Percy were planning entertainment for a Christmas party. Their first idea was to stage a nativity play, but in the whole Congress they couldn't find three wise men or a virgin. So, they decided to dig into the headlines of the day, and they created song parodies & skits which conveyed a special brand of satirical humor.

Tickets: Tickets: 717-214-ARTS (2787)

Whitaker Center
Led Zepellin, Get the Led Out
Dec. 29, 8 p.m.
From the bombastic and epic, to the folky and mystical, Get The Led Out have captured the essence of the recorded music of Led Zeppelin and brought it to the big concert stage. The Philadelphia-based group consists of six accomplished musicians intent on delivering Led Zeppelin's studio recordings with all the bells and whistles. Utilizing the multi-instrumentalists at their disposal, Get The Led Out re-create the songs in all their depth and glory with the studio overdubs that Zeppelin themselves never performed live.

Tickets: Tickets: 717-214-ARTS (2787)

STRAND CAPITOL THEATRE

Paula Poundstone
Nov. 24, 7:30 p.m.
You never know if you'll become a part of the show! Armed with nothing but a stool, a microphone and a can of Diet Pepsi, this hilariously funny comedian will take the stage with her razor-sharp wit and uncanny ability to interact with the audience in conversations sure to make you laugh until your cheeks hurt. Paula's ability to create humor on the spot has become the stuff of legend. Tickets: 717-846-1111

Chorale continued from page 20

choirs were formed as part of the original ensemble's ongoing Educational Outreach Program, initiated by Tedford in 1988 to pass to the next generation an appreciation and passion for the highest quality choral music and performance.

Christmas concerts

The Chorale presents three performances of "A Candlelight Christmas" on

Friday, December 14, 8 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 64 West Chocolate Ave., Hershey; on Saturday, December 15, 8 p.m. at Market Square Presbyterian Church, 20 South 2nd St., Harrisburg; and on Sunday, December 16, 4 p.m. at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut St., Camp Hill. This highly anticipated annual event was listed last year by "The Patriot-News" as one of the top ten "memorable performances and exhibitions" in 2011. This year's performances will feature a timeless celebration of Christmas selections from the Renaissance to the 21st century. Highlights include the sonorous "Ave Maria" by Franz Biebl, e.e. cummings' poem "Little Tree" set to music by Steve Heitzig, "Three Nativity Carols" by Stephen Paulus and an enchanting mix of traditional carols featuring harpist Elizabeth Asmus and oboist Jill Marchione. The Chorale will also sing favorite carols with the audience and conclude the concert with its signature "Silent Night," sung around the audience in candlelight.

Spring and summer performances

The Chorale will continue its season with three performances of "Sojourn," including a spring debut concert at the magnificent new High Center for Worship and the Performing Arts at Messiah

College and a summer performance by invitation at the nationally renowned Chautauqua Institution. A unique and inspiring mix of styles that explore the journey of new life and rebirth, "Sojourn" will feature selections such as Mendelssohn's "Denn er hat seinen Englen befohlen" and Pachelbel's "Nun danket alle Gott"; Carly Simon's soulful "Let the River Run"; Bach's "Aria" arranged by Ward Swingle, conductor of the Swingle Singers; "Ubi Caritas" and "The Ground" by acclaimed contemporary composer Ola Gjeilo; Billy Joel's "Lullaby" and "When the Saints Go Marching In" sung with the audience. Performances will take place on Friday, May 10, 2013, 8 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 64 West Chocolate Ave., Hershey; on Saturday, May 11, 2013, 8 p.m., High Center, Messiah College, One College Ave., Grantham; and on Saturday, August 4, 2013, Chautauqua Institution, One Ames Ave., Chautauqua, N.Y. For information about the Chautauqua performance, call 1.800.836.ARTS or visit www.ciweb.org.

Guest performances

Also performing this season with Stuart Malina and the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra (HSO), the Susquehanna Children's Chorale will be among the guest artists for "Mistletoe Magic," a family holiday musical that will also feature the Messiah College Concert Choir, on Saturday, December 8, 8 p.m. and Sunday December 9, 3 p.m. And in early spring, the Susquehanna Chorale will perform with Malina and the HSO for a dramatic stage concert of "La Traviata" by Giuseppe Verdi on Saturday, March 23, 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 24, 3 p.m.. Both concerts will take place at The Forum, 500 Walnut St., Harrisburg. For tickets, call the HSO at 717-544-5527.

Ticket information

To reserve season or individual tickets for the Youth Festival, "A Candlelight Christmas" or the May "Sojourn" concerts, call the Messiah College Box Office at 717-691-6036. Two- or three-ticket season subscriptions are available for $31 and $41, respectively, through Oct. 31.

York Little Theatre

Avenue Q

November 9, 10, 15, 16, and 17 at 7:30

November 11 and 18 at 3:00

Winner of the Tony Triple Crown for Best Book, Score and Musical

South Central Pennsylvania Premiere

Avenue Q, a "Sesame Street" parody for grown-ups, with both human and puppet characters, is part flesh, part felt, and packed with heart. This laugh-out-loud coming-of-age parable, addresses and satirizes the issues and anxieties with entering adulthood. For mature audiences.

A Musical Christmas Card

December 14 and 15 at 7:30; December 16 at 3:00

YLT's annual Christmas Musical Variety Show brimming with holiday cheer! Packed with music and full of delight, this show is for people who love Christmas and revel in the Christmas spirit.

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Chamber on the move

By Bill Krenz

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber Wins National Award

August 8, in Chicago, IL, the Central Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce was honored for excellence in communications at the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NCLGG)'s Certify Your Success National Business & Leadership Conference. It is an honor to receive this national award for 'The Power of Membership' video launched at our 2012 annual dinner in January and resides on the homepage of our website.

"The video showcases the value of partnering with the CPGLCC, the quality of our members, and the talent of our allied member, Derek Lau of AideM Media, who produced this video for us," says Debra McClain, Chamber President and CEO.

NGLCC recognized the CPGLCC for developing an outstanding media campaign.

The chamber saw a surge in membership and celebrates new collaborative efforts in the region. McClain says "In August we attained the same number of members as the affiliate chamber in Atlanta, 180." Atlanta's LGBT chamber is 15 years old.

Eight members of the chamber have already received their LGBTE certification, which is way above average in regional chamber accreditation. "NGLCC affiliate chambers like the CPGLCC are leveraging every possible opportunity for businesses to grow and become strong engines that will drive their local economies," says Sam McClure, NGLCC Director of Affiliate Relations and Externals Affairs. "These affiliate leaders are the backbone of the LGBT business movement, and we are so proud to work with them and recognize their accomplishments."

Chamber Benefits Update

Hava Pell, Membership Chairman, continues to inventory the member perks and benefits that our businesses offer. The chamber now has over 70 discounts to offer to members. Pell says "We all support our LGBTA community, as business people and consumers – did you know the CPGLCC also supports you? There are many member discounts available." Please check the web site for additional details. There are deals to be found, from framing discounts to self-help counseling discounts to insurance discounts.

Past Events

The October 11 Mixer was held at The Hershey Lodge, and was sponsored by Hershey Entertainment and Resorts, one of the chamber's early and predominant corporate sponsors.

October 29, the chamber hosted a workshop, 'Basic Social Media For Business' at the LGBT Community Center in Harrisburg presented by Deb Bixler.

Upcoming Events

Chamber members will be attending FAB at the Hilton Harrisburg on Nov. 10 for another fun event supporting the LGBT Community Center.

The next mixer will be held on November 15 at the Best Western Premier, the Central Hotel & Conference Center in Harrisburg.

There will also be a presentation by Martin Brill, Program Manager, International Business and Ernie Post, Director, both of the Small Business Development Center of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, on the topic "Successfully Launching and Sustaining a Business", 6-7 p.m. During this workshop, participants will learn about the fundamentals of topics such as: financials, cash flow, board of advisors, market change, and market plans.

In addition, participants will become familiar with the resources available through the Small Business Development Center of Pennsylvania, and there will be opportunities to schedule brief individual sessions during the mixer.

The December mixer will be at the Nauman Smith law firm in Harrisburg on December 6 . Check out their great office space in one of Harrisburg's oldest high rises and meet the employees at this law firm that has done so much for the LGBT community in Central Pennsylvania.

Also be aware that there is a Supplier Diversity Forum at the Best Western Premier, the Central Hotel & Conference Center in Harrisburg on December 14. This is being coordinated by the Harrisburg Regional Chamber. Sam McClure, with the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, will be traveling to attend the event and be one of the forum speakers.

The chamber is also setting up additional events on December 13 so that CPGLCC members can meet McClure.

Remember: Please register for events at the www.cpglcc.org or to host an event in 2013 - contact Seth Hamill at shamill@cpglcc.org.
Info: www.cpglcc.org

Out of Town continued from page 27

modations in the state, the Moose Meadow Lodge (moosemeadowlodge.com), an upscale, log home with three plush rooms, a hot tub, and a peaceful setting with alluring views. Hosts Greg and Willie are a font of information on what to see and do in the area.

Stowe's personality is low-keyed yet urbane. Virtually all the town's businesses are gay-friendly, but a few inns are especially so, among them the excellent Timberholm Inn (timberholm.com), a 1940s cedar lodge with great mountain views; and the luxurious Stoweflake Mountain Resort and Spa (stoweflake.com), which provides the sort of indulgent pampering that can make it tempting never to leave the premises. The famed Trapp Family Lodge (www.trappfamily.com) is another favorite resort, especially during Winter Rendezvous (it's the host hotel this year).

Woodstock, Upper Connecticut River Valley

Throughout the Connecticut River Valley, you'll find inviting communities in both Vermont and New Hampshire (the river forms the state border). A formerly hardscrabble railroad center, White River Junction has lately flourished with hip restaurants and edgy art galleries, and it's home to the esteemed Northern Stage theater. Many students and faculty from Dartmouth College, just up and across the river in the dapper New Hampshire town of Hanover, live around here. A bit south, highlights include the American Precision Museum, Harpoon Brewery, and Simon Pearce glassware in Windsor; and the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (the grounds are spectacular) across the river in Cornish, New Hampshire.

Just 15 miles inland from White River Junction, the neatly preened village of Woodstock is rich with meticulously preserved Federal and Georgian colonial houses, many of them containing fine antiques shops, art galleries, and attractive inns. Woodstock offers beautiful scenery and plenty to see and do - hiking and biking in summer, watching the leaves turn brilliant colors in fall, and skiing and snowshoeing in winter. The world-famous ski slopes of Killington Resort are a short drive west. The Rockefeller family has been instrumental in preserving this delightful town, whose leading attraction is the 500-acre Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, which preserves some of New England's most pristine and scenic forest and farmland. In winter, be sure to stop by Sugarbush Farm, which makes its own syrup, drawn from the sap of the 5,000 maple trees on the property. The nearby town of Quechee, which is pierced by the Ottauquechee River, is home to the 165-foot-deep Quechee Gorge, an excellent spot to picnic and take photos.

Where to Stay

With several homey, antiques-filled rooms, the centrally located Village Inn of Woodstock (villageinnofwoodstock.com) also offers terrific dining in its casual but elegant restaurant. On edge of Woodstock, the Lincoln Inn (lincolninn.com) sits on 6 rolling acres that edge the gurgling Ottauquechee River. In White River Junction, the

Inn at Clearwater Farm (innatclearwaterpond.com) has five warmly furnished rooms and a verdant, rural setting; and downtown's affordable and historic Hotel Coolidge (hotelcoolidge.com) is a little rough around the edges but has plenty of character and is a short walk from great dining.

Rural Chester is a great lodging base in the lower valley, and home to a couple of terrific gay-owned inns: The Chester House Inn (chesterhouseinn.com) is a splendid 1780 colonial house just steps from shopping and restaurants, and the Williams River House (williamsriverhouse.com) sits on 46 rolling acres and dates to 1780 - this lovely B&B contains four artfully decorated suites and cottages.

Manchester

An idyllic community in southwestern Vermont, Manchester offers a wealth of cool-weather diversions, plus a collection of high-end outlet shops that rivals any in New England. The town lies in the bucolic Battenkill River valley, which has long been famous in summer for its fly-fishing - the Orvis mail-order company is headquartered in town, as is the informative American Museum of Fly Fishing. Two respected downhill ski resorts fringe Manchester, the more low-key Bromley Mountain, and the bigger and more upscale Stratton resort.

Several historic inns and imposing colonial buildings make up dignified Manchester Village, which is tucked beneath the regal crest of 3,816-foot Mt. Equinox (you can drive to the top in summer). Just south, on the grounds of Robert Todd (son of Abe) Lincoln's palatial retreat, Hildene, you can cross-country ski along 10 miles of groomed trails that traverse farm roads and pass through birch and maple groves.

Where to Stay

The last word on dining and lodging in Manchester has, since 1769, been the Equinox Resort (equinoxresort.com). This stately and exclusive resort comprises numerous main buildings with ultra-luxurious furnishings. There's also a fully equipped fitness center and spa and a variety of fine restaurants. Additionally, the resort operates The Inns at Equinox, which include the centrally located and richly inviting 1811 House, an authentically simple Early American inn with 13 rooms. Also operated by the Equinox are 30 newer town homes decorated with Mitchell Gold pieces.

Other highly recommended inns in the area include the Arlington Inn (arlingtoninn.com), an 18-room Greek Revival beauty in the town Norman Rockwell called home in the 1940s; and the Wilburton Inn (wilburton.com), a lavish Victorian mansion in Manchester Village, set on a bluff with great views of the mountains. Rooms here are among the most sumptuous in the state.

Andrew Collins covers gay travel for the website GayTravel.About.com and is the author of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA.

E&E Family Restaurant Opens

By Frank Pizzoli

By the time our interview ended, I was hearing "Just a Family Affair" by Sly & the Family Stone.

E&E Restaurant, 245 E. Main Street, Rear, Mechanicsburg is the brainchild of Ted Zeider and his sister Barbara Tenalio. Jon, Tenalio's son, also works in the restaurant. The restaurant is named after Zeider's two children Elizabeth and Eric.

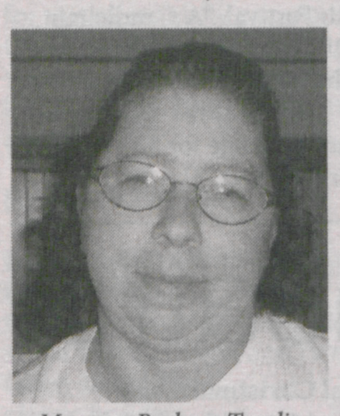
E&E Restaurant, 245 E. Main Street, Rear, Mechanicsburg.

Zeider also owns The Magical Incense Shop, 30 Market Street, Mechanicsburg. No slouch for start-ups, he's also opening a neighborhood grocery store in Philadelphia.

"We took over when recent restaurant owners Don & Beck left the location," Tenalio says. "We've kept some of the customers." She plans her won changes with the introduction of ethnic dishes like Spanish Rice & Beans, Lasagna Night, and more.

Diners can find wraps, hot and cold sandwiches, soups, salads, all day breakfast, a la carte sides, and lunch plates.

"We may expand to evening hours and dinner items," she adds. The long weekend hours – from 5 a.m. Friday to 5 p.m. Sunday – are intended to draw in the after the bar crowd.



Manager Barbara Tenalio

For now, Tenalio's full compliment of 15 staff are busy learning the ropes in a new setting, although for her and Zeider the drill is familiar. He's owned food and pizza establishments in Harrisburg.

Work hard

Tenalio is no stranger toward work or success. "Try, try, try, that's my motto. Don't ever let anyone tell you can't do something," she says with gusto in her voice.

She dropped out of school and after her children reached their teen years she earned her GED. "Then I was full of steam and became a Certified Nursing Assistant and then a Licensed Practical Nurse," she says proudly. Plenty of people doubted her "but I gained confidence in myself."

Tenalio credits her success to eventually understanding the difference between her biological family and her emotional family. "Both kinds of 'families' are good and needed. Each one serves a different purpose," she reflects. Having lost her mother, then a brother, and now caring for a sister allowed for her and brother Zeider "to come back together" after a two year silence.

"Eventually you understand what's important in life," she says.

York events

Christmas in York Art & Craft Festival
November 9, 10, 11-8, 10-6
DESCRIPTION: The PA Garden Show of York proudly presents Christmas In York Art & Craft Festival!
York Expo Center, Memorial Hall
334 Carlisle Avenue, York PA 17404
The York Expo Center is located on Route 74 near Routes 30 and 83.

Tri-County Gun & Knife Show
Dec. 22, 23, 9-5, 9-3
The Tri County Gun Show is a gun and knife show that is open to the public. Admission is $8 for anyone 12 and up. Free parking.
York Expo Center, Toyota Arena
334 Carlisle Avenue, York PA 17404
Located on Route 74 near Routes 30 & 83.

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...tis the season!

Central Voice
LOCAL GIFT GUIDE

continued from page one

laundromat services.

Clendennin Therapeutic Massage

Feel your best with a therapeutic massage from Clendennin Therapeutic Massage, owned by Christopher Johnson, 804 State St., Lemoyne, PA 17043 (across the street from the West Shore Farmer's Market). His hours are by appointment by calling 717-737-4275.

"I tailor my working style to the individual client's needs," Johnson says. "Within a traditional Swedish full-body relaxation massage, I incorporate Myofascial Release techniques as well as Assisted Stretching." Massage therapy has been shown to improve blood flow, promote relaxation and to increase range of motion. Massage alleviates the effect of stress and gravity on the body. "And it just feels good!" Johnson adds.

Gift Ideas: Recommended gift suggestions: Lemon/Rosemary salt Scrub or Soak mixture, 16 oz. jar for $7.50 or Herbal Sweet Sleep mixture, 1 cup for $2.

Now that you're massaged, coiffed, clothed, and ready for holiday romance, what about a gift? And where to go to celebrate?

Mangia Qui & Suba Tapas Bar

Remember the tried and true when it comes to warmth and service.

704

Check out the new upscale environs at 704, located at 704 North 3rd St, Harrisburg. The establishment is owned by Russ Harr and Brett Johnson and managed by well-known Michael Troutman. Since taking over the business, the owners have carefully made improvements changing the face of the establishment.

Hours: Mon-Sat 4:00 PM to 2:00 AM, Sundays are Make Your Own Bloody Mary with hours 2:00 PM to 2:00 AM. Web site: www.704pa.com; Facebook: 704; Phone: 707.234.4226

Gift Ideas: Why not take someone special or grab friends for Christmas Eve Candle Light Cocktails, 5:30 to 7:30 PM. And during the month of December enjoy Special Christmas Martini's.

Char's at Tracy Mansion

Now in a new location but well known on the scene is Char's at Tracy Mansion.

Why not give the gift of Harrisburg as it was at its historical height? The Tracy Mansion, once a pinnacle of private homes along Fronts Street is, now Char's - an American Brasserie – offering elegance, casual and fine dining with exceptional, friendly service.

Gift Idea: Boxed Gift Certificates are available by calling: 213-4002 or through their website: www.charsrestaurant.com.

Tastemakers

If you want to spice up your dinner table, try – Tastemakers, a brand a new oil and vinegar tap house and tasting emporium created to provide Central Pennsylvania with the freshest, finest, and broadest selection of extra virgin, naturally flavored and fused olive oils from around the world; aged traditional and naturally flavored balsamic vinegars from Modena, Italy; specialty salts and blocks; other fine flavorings and gourmet accessories.

Red Door Consignment Gallery

Maybe this year's gift doesn't have to be new. Check out the Red Door Consignment Gallery, 2635 Paxton St., Harrisburg, between Benihanna and M&T Bank. They have a great selection of unique furniture and accessories. Instead of the traditional boring gifts, why not consider a retro lamp or 60's art glass?

Gift Ideas: "We have a great selection of classic and modern furniture, wide range of art from original oils to movie posters, and much more. You can find great gifts at a fraction of what you would pay in the traditional retail store," says Sam Levine, and Irene, Jessica and Cotton, their Dog Mascot. www.RedDoorConsignmentGallery.com.

The Paper Lion Gallery

Maybe a new frame on an old favorite piece of art work or a new piece altogether from The Paper Lion Gallery owned by Jim Hadfield and Bill Grace, 1217 Hummel Avenue, Lemoyne, 612-9950, paprlion@pa.net; www.thepaperlion.net. They're open Tues-Fri 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For Christmas Week Mon. (Christmas Eve) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Tues (Christmas Day) closed, New Year's Eve and Day closed.

Gift Ideas: Jim Hadfield says,"One of the easiest ways to change the vibe in a room is color. The second easiest way is with fabric and art. Art doesn't have to be expensive, and it is intrinsically personal. Come see what we can do to help you make a style statement. Why stop at a framed picture? Design your own canvas or create a fantastic shadowbox with your favorite things!"

Bill Grace says, "Everyone has a picture or print under the bed or rolled up in the closet that needs a show-stopping frame. Why not give a Paper Lion Gift Certificate? It might just be the inspiration someone needs for a New Year room makeover!"

All Paper Lion's framed holiday prints are 25% off.

Art Association of Harrisburg

Art classes or a hot buy from a gallery opening makes the Art Association of Harrisburg a good gift choice. The Art Association of Harrisburg, is located at 21 North Front Street, and is open seven days a week. Gallery hours are 9:30 a.m.- 9 p.m. M-Th; 9:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. Fr; 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Sat; 2 – 5 p.m.

Gift Ideas: "We have a great variety of art to choose from for holiday gifts," says president Carrie Wisler-Thomas. "The exhibition in the five main galleries include mixed media, oils and watercolors. Our Sales Gallery offers an eclectic array of original landscapes and Susquehanna River scenes, photographs of Harrisburg City sights, and pottery, jewelry, and prints of all subjects. The Art Association suggests a photograph of our beautiful Susquehanna River by Jeff Stoner, Jeff Wiles, Tom Reider, or Paul Vasiliades with prices ranging between $25 and $90.

Christiane David Gallery

Christiane David Gallery, 112 N. Prince Street Lancaster, 717-293-0809 specializes in Fine Art originals, commissions, and prints.

Gift Ideas: Find that perfect watercolor, oil, or acrylic art work. See examples at http://christianedavid.com/works.

Gallery @ Second

Gallery @ Second, 608 N. Second St, Harrisburg, www.GalleryAtSecond.com.

Hours: Thursday and Friday, 4:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m.; Friday receptions, 6 p.m.–9 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sunday: Noon–4 p.m. Other hours: open by appointment. See them too participating in "3rd in the Burgs" 6 p.m.–9 p.m., each month's third Friday. See exhibits and stop by for food, drink, music, and some great "art talk."

Gift Idea: Lots of high quality art works to choose from or seek their advice on a selection.

j. a. sharp, Custom Jewelers

Customize your sentiments with a handcrafted, original piece of jewelry from - j. a. sharp, Custom Jewelers owned by Jude Sharp and Sylvia Weaver. They are known for completely custom jewelry by Jude Sharp. In addition to Jude's jewelry, they also carry work by in-house jewelers, Andrea Miller Amey, and Kristan T. Winand, as well as handmade pieces by other American artists. They also feature fabulous ornaments made with vintage materials by Deb Sielski for the holidays (think of them as house jewelry) They're open every day between Thanksgiving and Christmas (Mon. - Thurs. 10 - 5:30, Friday 10 - 8, Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 12 - 4). (717) 295-9661, info@jasharp.com, www.jasharp.com.

Gift Idea: A handmade watch by Watchcraft $395.

Trophy House

Another way to customize your gift is with Trophy House.

Harrisburg's newest National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce LGBT certified business offers several holiday shopping ideas.

Gift Ideas: "Stainless steel water bottles make great stocking stuffers, Hanukah or Kwanza gifts. At $12, they meet any budget. Wine box sets, key chains and ornaments are among the other gifts that can be custom engraved," says owner MJ Wertz.

Trophy House is located at 308 Chestnut St., Harrisburg, M-F 8:30-5:30 or online at: www.TrophyHouseHarrisburg.com. Like us on Facebook to be entered for monthly prize giveaways.

Cunningham Coaching Company

"Bloom your possibilities" as they say at Cunningham Coaching Company, LLC.

Have you ever wanted to achieve a goal, make a change or just create a happier life? You know you can make the change, but you don't know how. "I work with clients to help them get their life happening again. Coaching can empower you to create your best life," says owner Julie A. Cunningham, M.S. She coaches clients over the telephone. "A coach partners with you and empowers you to create what is possible. Coaching is an investment in you. You are worth it!" she says.

Interested individuals can call or e-mail Cunningham anytime. "I will respond within 24 hours." 717-858-3327; http://www.cunninghamcoachingcompany.com

Gift Idea: Cunningham Coaching Company recommends the gift of coaching sessions. Coaching costs $25/session. A minimum of four sessions is recommended. A complimentary session will be given to all individuals who receive coaching as a gift.

Karen's Harmony Hall

We all know what a house full of family and friends can be like over a holiday or special occasion. Why not plan a special party at Karen's Harmony Hall, a portion of ticket sales often goes to nonprofits, including lgbt organizations.

Harmony Hall, 1400 Fulling Hill Road, Middletown, 985-9300, karenscatering.com, offers lunch M-F, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and makes the facility available evenings and weekends for business and personal events. "We can customize your event any way you like," says owner Karen Taylor.

Gift Ideas: Gift certificates for lunch in any amount for that special lunch occasion. "We'll work with you plan a business or family event, including closing the restaurant if that's what you need to make your event successful!" Taylor says.

BOOK REVIEW:
Truman and Eisenhower Inhabited a Dangerous World

By Frank Pizzoli

Parallels between 1948 and 2012 continue to mount. The similarities make "Two Americans, Truman, Eisenhower, and a Dangerous World" by William Lee Miller a compelling read. Miller's level of detail is illuminating yet readable, making the period, its transitions and challenges accessible to the informed but novice historian.

Although related but not identical, Truman's 1948 call for African-American civil rights fought over at that year's Democratic National Convention lead the Solid South to crumble into what historians may eventually say spawned nationwide into The Tea Party movement. That makes for chilling similarities to today's vehemently fought lgbt civil rights battles.

Miller covers the shifting tides of the African-American civil rights movement against the pressures of a still dangerous, post World War II world. Circumstances then are similar to today's high-pitched gay marriage equality squabbles taking place in a tense world fearful that a rogue nation – Iran, North Korea - may drop an atomic bomb or spray deadly gas on enemies.

Today's rogue nation controversies, the Arab Spring and lgbt atrocities committed worldwide eerily resemble, certainly not in scope but intent, World War II atrocities and post-war difficulties of a world realigning itself following the division of Europe and the arbitrary establishment of Middle Eastern states. As protests for democracy in state-based dictatorships mount, self-governing models struggle with how, if at all, to include lgbt rights and protections.

Especially revealing is the author's way of outlining without any numbness from too much detail the period's before, during, and after stages of significant national and world events. He starts, generally, with Al Smith's run for the White House on an anti-prohibition platform (think failing War on Drugs) finishing with war hero Eisenhower entering the White House in 1952. He simultaneously weaves the historical threads of a nation quickly changing internally with a nation also outwardly rebuilding a war-torn world. The manuscript is weighted with events but highly readable since Miller makes quick, credible connections between seemingly unrelated twists and turns in significant events faced by Truman and Eisenhower.

Upon taking over the reigns Truman learned of the atom bomb, a development kept from him as vice president, although Soviet Premiere Joseph Stalin soon knew of the bomb, if not before Truman knew himself. Using his new weapon of mass destruction twice on Japanese soil, Truman ended the Pacific War early, claiming he saved more than 1 million American lives. Although not on the same scale (history usually isn't when it repeats itself), his pressures resemble today's calls for an outright pre-emptive strike against Iran, a nation we fear will strike us when they eventually have the capability.

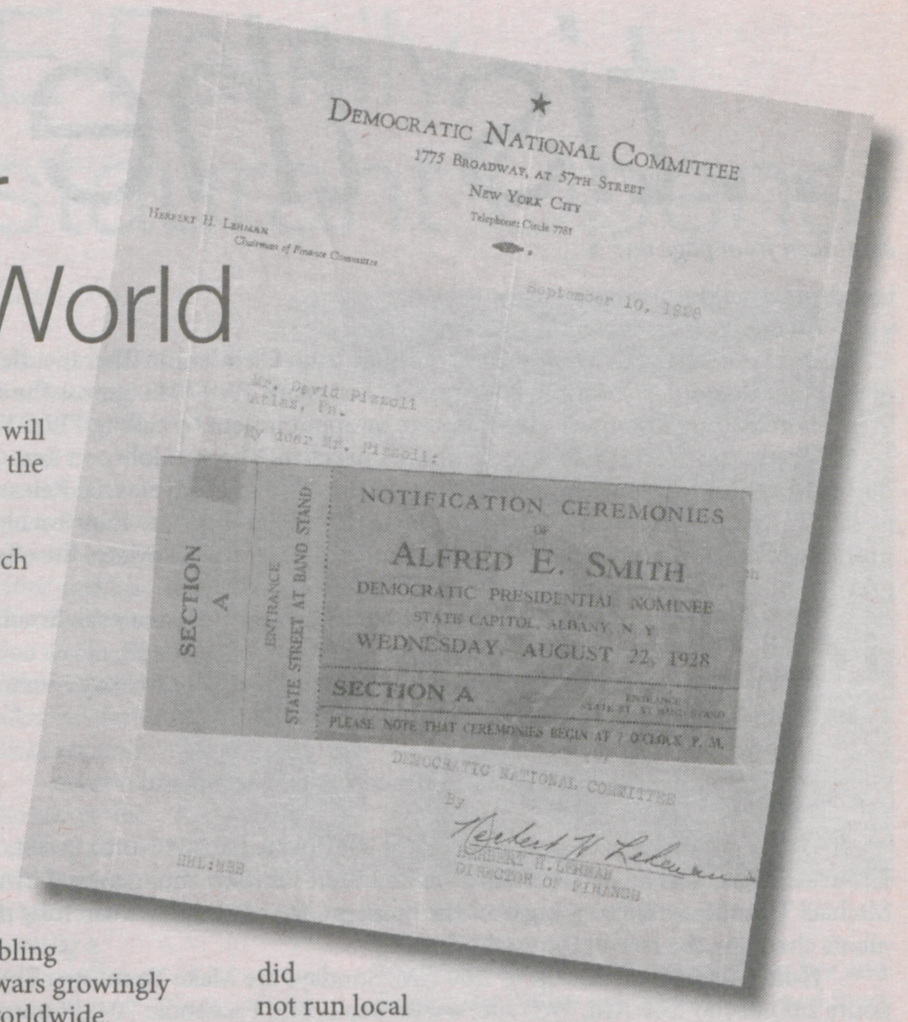
Another similarity is that in return for the successful Soviet march to Berlin and defeating Hitler, the US would allow for heavy post-war Soviet involvement in Eastern Europe and, in turn, the Russians would within three months enter the Japanese War on the US side. Stalin's war fatigued armed forces and his weary people began to falter and the US doubted we could hold together the coalition of forces needed to continue. Obama faces similar war fatigues and crumbling circumstances after inheriting two wars growingly unpopular both domestically and worldwide.

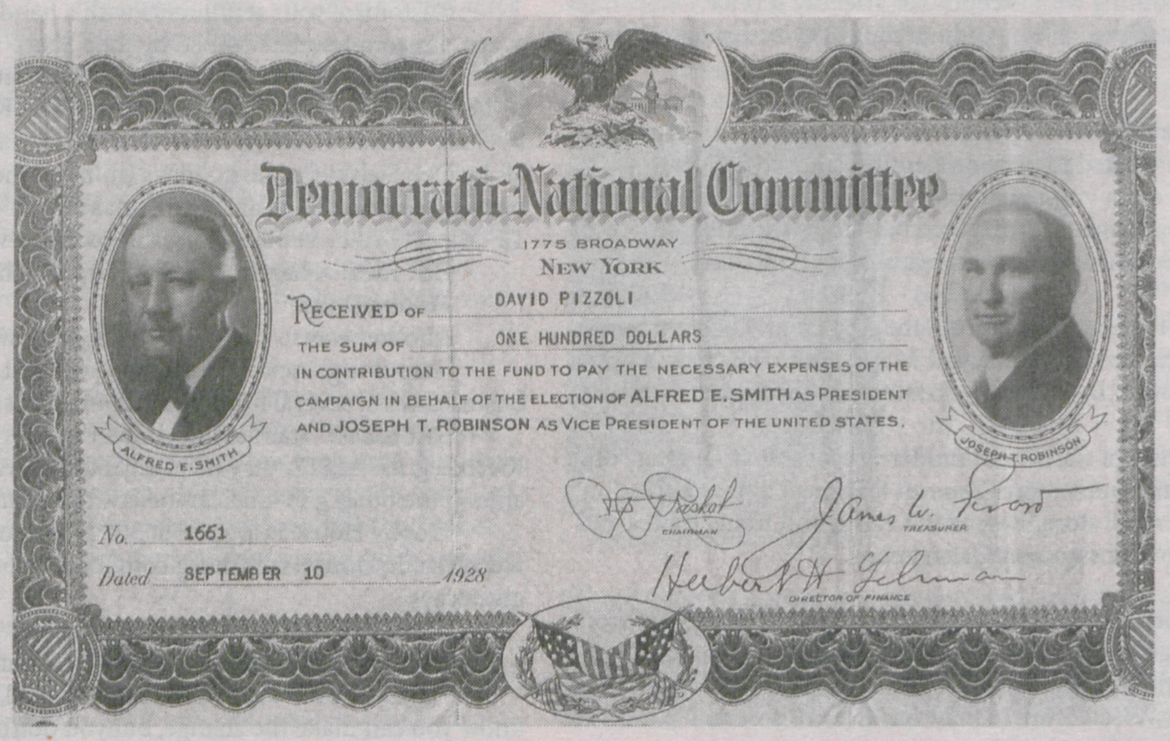
My familiarity with the period stems from my father having been an elected delegate to the 1948 Democratic National Convention held that year in Philadelphia, nominating Truman. His stand on desegregating the military prompted South Carolina Gov., later US Senator, Strom Thurmond to bolt the solidly Democratic South and forge the short-lived States' Rights Democratic Party, called Dixiecrats, determined to protect what they then perceived as a southern way of life encroached upon by an oppressive federal government. In 2003, Thurmond's family revealed the avid racist had at age 22 encroached upon their 16-year-old maid, Essie Mae Washington-Williams, to father a daughter. Perhaps that's analogous to today's rabid anti-homosexual Republicans and pews full of religious leaders who are themselves closeted gay?

Today, think freshman Tea Party members of the US House of Representatives, who bolted into Congress rather than out of a national political party over disagreements about the role of the federal government in our everyday life. Where the analogy dissolves is that unlike the Tea Party freshman members of Congress who have throttled compromise – US House Speaker John Boehner once said keeping frogs in a wheel barrel was difficult - Thurmond's faction did not run local or state candidates, and after the 1948 election its leaders generally returned to the Democratic Party. Tea Party members remain ensconced in a Congressional process that has all but halted except to say "No".

The obvious civil rights tie-in is President Obama's stance on marriage equality. National party platforms are like flood insurance: They're necessary but you never want to face relying on them. Whereas Truman's call for civil rights for men and women who helped defeat dictators caused a revolt, expectations are that this year's Democratic convention will, finally, after decades of taking gay money include marriage equality in the quickly forgotten document. Perhaps obsessed zealots will hold up that paragraph as fodder for talk TV, although some observers think that will simply push fence sitters to support civil rights as a thwart to the opposition's tedious dissent.

In another striking analogy, The Daily Beast's Robert Shrum thinks Mitt Romney is like Truman's opponent Republican New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey. In his article Shrum writes (my italics added) that "while Truman (think Obama) was delivering tough talk on big issues - the minimum wage, medical care for the elderly, 'the do-nothing-80th Congress—Dewey (think Romney) evaded them. Instead he delivered a major address on water, offering up this compelling thought: "We must…use the water we have wisely and well." Romney recoils from questions about his record at Bain, brushing them off with a token non-reply and swiftly pivoting back to referendum. Maybe the stiff Mitt aptly fits Alice Roosevelt Longworth's description of Dewey as "the little man on the wedding cake." If the past is prologue, do these striking analogies mean Obama wins a second term? Perhaps Miller's book doesn't have the answer but it does have a perspective that speaks to today.





"Two Americans, Truman, Eisenhower, and a Dangerous World" by William Lee Miller
Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 2012
ISBN 978-0-307-59564-5

Hear Me Out: Pink, Barbra Streisand

By Chris Azzopardi

Pink, "The Truth About Love"

In a world ruled by artificial pop princesses, Pink has always approached her music with real-woman candor, whether she's slamming horny dudes at the bar or singing a true-life tale about her parents' divorce. But this hell-raiser act, which extends through her catchy-but-safe seventh album, is turning cocky into caricature. "The Truth About Love" wants so hard to convince the world that Pink, who had a kid not long ago, is still the biggest badass on the block that it spends so much time proving a point when it should be using Pink's mighty ways as a singer and songwriter to crush the competition. (We know she can.) The potty mouth, the man put-downs (she tells him, cheekily, to blow her) and a duet with another often-misunderstood musician, Eminem – we get it; she's still a punk. Though Pink at her most "punk" was on the fierce commercial-dud "Try This", released nearly 10 years ago, it's clear record execs won't let this one suffer the same fate: Second single "Try" fetches a generic credo of perseverance but has a cool grunge sound, while "Walk of Shame," about a one-night stand, is goofy super-pop that's a lot of fun. But Pink, who has made catchier songs about jerking off, is better than "Slut Like You." Her deftness is demonstrated on "Beam Me Up," where she lets down her guard for a needy moment of vulnerable release. It's just too bad how hard "The Truth About Love" tries to be another "Funhouse," turning Pink into a brand instead of the artist she always seemed destined to be.

Grade: C+

Barbra Streisand, "Release Me"

There's a predictability to Babs that's like comfort food: Her rainy-day music tends to require a box of tissue, and she sings with the same passion, precision and power that made the Brooklyn girl a star over 40 years ago. Simply put, there's no one else like her in this smoke-and-mirrors music industry. Not even Adele possesses the same purity as Babs. "Release Me", spanning decades as it reaches back into her song catalog for 11 previously unreleased tracks, is a testament to her reign as a vocal luminary who's not just stood the test of time, but stands taller as the years go by. But even in 1971, during her "Stoney End" era, Streisand's capabilities were so absolute that her cover of Randy Newman's "I Think It's Going to Rain Today" was cut in one take, with a simple reading over Newman's piano that preserves the melancholic sorrow of the song without overdoing it. Better than Bette's version from "Beaches?" Not when it comes to heart. "Being Good Isn't Good Enough," from the 1967 Broadway musical "Hallelujah, Baby!" about equality, goes all diva with an escalating orchestra that finally crescendos as Babs sings her butt off. It's also refreshing to hear Streisand, who's gone the contemporary love-song route, take on a song as theatrically thrilling as her up-tempo version of "Home" from "The Wiz". The song never made "The Broadway Album" as planned – but it's here, and it's glorious.

Grade: B+

Also Out

Ryan Bingham, "Tomorrowland"

Never mind that Ryan Bingham won an Oscar for his fragile folk song "The Weary Kind" from "Crazy Heart"; he's a new man who's, well, not so weary. At least by the sound of his new DIY disc, where he's without his signature band and former label. He rocks hard on "Beg for Broken Legs" with his usual gruffness but also a fiery attitude that's almost inspiring. His heart, however, hasn't strayed too far: "Never Far Behind" ruminates quite poignantly on the difficulty of moving on from a family member's suicide. If "Tomorrowland" wasn't so rooted in yesterday's rock, that awards mantle could be looking a lot fuller.

Pet Shop Boys, "Elysium"

On "Your Early Stuff," Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe – aka Pet Shop Boys – recall a conversation with a cab driver who thought the U.K. duo was done for, but admired their '80s work. Since their 11th album tends to drag – its chill-out vibe could really use a few more hits of adrenaline, and the songs aren't nearly as memorable as their classic stuff – who can blame the guy for wishing they were still in their prime, singing about West End Girls? But the Pet Shop Boys still pull off some splendid moments of loungetronica: "Hold On" is a gospel beauty, and the dry-witted "Ego Music" satires celebrity vanity. Otherwise, though, it'll have you turning to the early stuff.

PA Delegates to Democratic National Convention Gather for Reception

Pennsylvania delegates to the Democratic National Convention gathered for a welcome reception at the Mint Museum. Among the delegates are, from left, Michael Morrill, Keystone Progress executive director, Jim Burn, Pennsylvania Democratic Party, Chair, and Adrian Shanker, Equality Pennsylvania, president.

Boy Scout Denied Award Because He's Gay

By On Top Magazine Staff & Central Voice

Ryan Andresen claims he was denied a Boy Scouts award after coming out gay.

Andresen, a longtime Boy Scout who lives near San Francisco, was denied an Eagle Scout award by his troop leader after he completed the work needed to earn it.

Andresen's mother, Karen Andresen, told Yahoo! News that her son was denied the award "because Ryan said he is gay."

The scout said he told his scoutmaster about his sexuality before beginning work on his project, a wall-sized mural illustrating hundreds of acts of kindness.

"He had been telling me all along that we'd get by the gay thing," Andresen said. "It was by far the biggest goal of my life. It's totally devastating."

Deron Smith, a spokesman for the Boy Scouts, suggested the reason Andresen was denied the award was because he disagreed with the group's religious principles.

"Recently, a Scout proactively notified his unit leadership and Eagle Scout Counselor that he does not agree to Scouting's principle of 'Duty to God' and does not meet Scouting's membership standard on sexual orientation," Smith wrote in a statement.

Louie Marven, executive director, The LGBT Community Center of Central PA, says. "As LGBT visibility and certain legal rights protecting LGBT people are achieved at a more rapid pace than ever, Ryan Andressen's story underscores that this work is happening in a very uneven way." Marven says that LGBT youth "continue to hear the message that living as an openly LGBT person has negative consequences, including non-acceptance and legal discrimination."

Marven hopes that "LGBT youth will be recognized for their outstanding achievements through scouting in the same way as their straight counterparts."

"The discrimination practiced by the Boy Scouts is wanton, mean-spirited and it never ceases to amaze me," exclaimed Equality PA executive director Ted Martin. "What in the world kind of message are they sending to a young person who works hard and meets their goals as in the case of Ryan Andresen and then is denied any recognition or reward because of who he is?"

Martin thinks it is "shocking and all those people who don't quite get why discrimination is deeply wounding should look to this case for a primer on how hate hurts." He calls for the pulling of public funding for Boy Scouts where it exists and wants to "make sure that everyone understands how Boy Scout policies can damage young people."

"While the BSA did not proactively ask for this information, based on his statements and after discussion with his family he is being informed that he is no longer eligible for membership in Scouting."

Karen Andresen denied the charge in a statement to GLAAD.

"The Boy Scouts of America's statement that Ryan does not agree to Scouting's principle of 'Duty to God' is inaccurate. … [T]he only reason he's being denied the rank of Eagle is because the Boy Scouts of America has a problem with Ryan being gay," she said.

The Boy Scouts of America reiterated its ban on openly gay scouts and leaders in July.

Equality president Adrian Shanker says, "It must be getting lonely for the Boy Scouts, as one of the last national youth-serving organizations that relishes in blatant homophobia." He says that "It's time for our allies to understand: don't donate to the Boy Scouts. Don't send your kids to the Boy Scouts. Don't volunteer as a scout leader."

Shanker says, "The Boy Scouts has made it abundantly clear that they oppose even basic equality for the LGBT community. We can't have the facade that the local troop is okay when the national organization is so clearly against us." He calls on communities "to stand against the Boy Scouts and find alternative programs that serve youth in our communities, ones that value every child for who they are."

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Art Association Presents Oriental Rug Seminar

Have you inherited or collected a worn-out or faded Oriental rug, and wonder if it's worth anything? You can find an answer on November 18 at the seminar to be presented at The Art Association of Harrisburg, 21 N. Front St., by Gary Ward and his son Kevin, of the highly-respected Ward's Oriental Rug Service & Gallery in Allentown.

From 2-3 p.m., the Wards will discuss information on Oriental rugs in an educational session, followed by an opportunity from 3 to 4 PM for attendees to have him look at their individual small rugs. The s Ward suggest that people email them in advance with their questions by visiting the website at www.wardsorientalrugservice.com.

Ward's Oriental Rug Service & Gallery is a three-generation, family-run business located on the banks of the Jordan River at 333 W. Union St. in downtown Allentown. They are a cleaning, repair and restoration company as well as purveyors of the Lehigh Valley's only pre-owned, antique and unique Oriental rugs.

A 35+year love affair with Oriental rugs blossomed into the Lehigh Valley's premier rug-care experts. Using his down-time during travel while working for corporate America, Gary Ward spent years perusing rug markets, dealers and auctions, as well as talking to people in the industry. Air travels were opportunities for him to ingest books detailing the history, examining the weaving techniques, or understanding the difference between vegetable dyes and chromium dyes. His bedside reading material was strictly nonfiction, he says! His son Kevin absorbed his father's passion for Oriental rugs. From courses at NYU in Fine Oriental Rug Studies, to their certification with the Appraisers Association of America, from their attendance at Sotheby's Auction to the recent request of the Oriental Rug Retailer's of America for Gary to join the board of directors, the Wards' immersion in the world of Oriental rugs is immense.

Gary and Kevin Ward not only own and operate their service and gallery, but completely understand their subject matter and continue to attend courses to further their education.

The Art Association of Harrisburg is proud to have Gary and Kevin Ward here to present this seminar on the subject so dear to their hearts on Sunday, November 18, from 2 to 4 PM.

A $10 donation is requested at the door.

Call 717-236-1432 for more information, or visit www.artassocofhbg.com.

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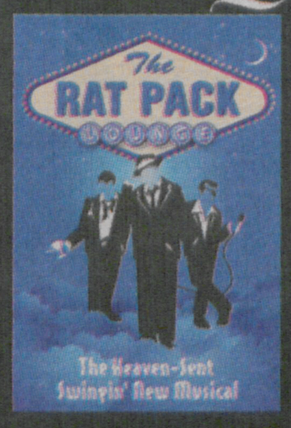
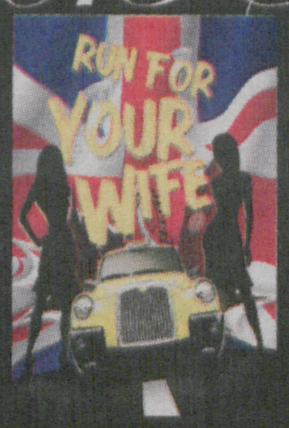


DECEMBER 30 - FEBRUARY 9



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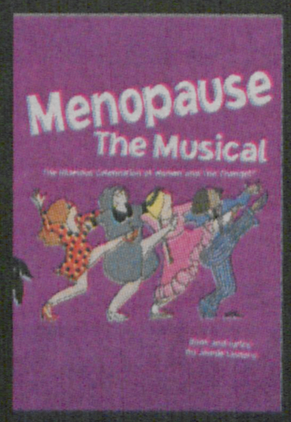
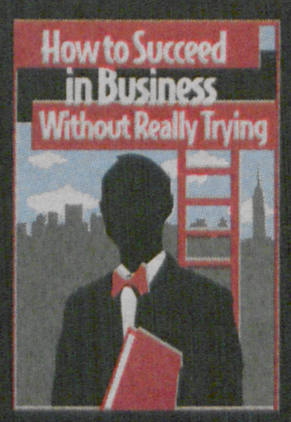
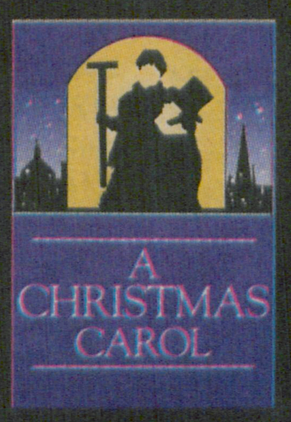


AUGUST 22 - SEPTEMBER 28



OCTOBER 3 - NOVEMBER 9



NOVEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 23

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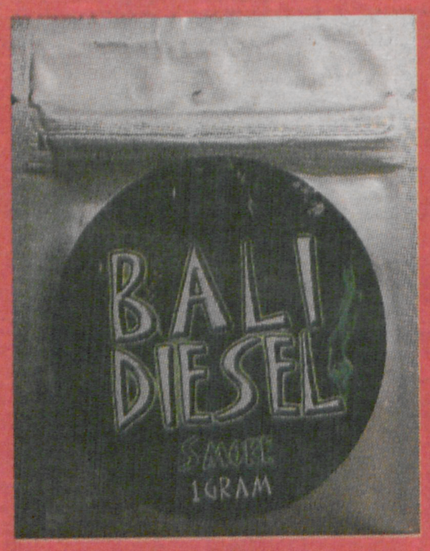

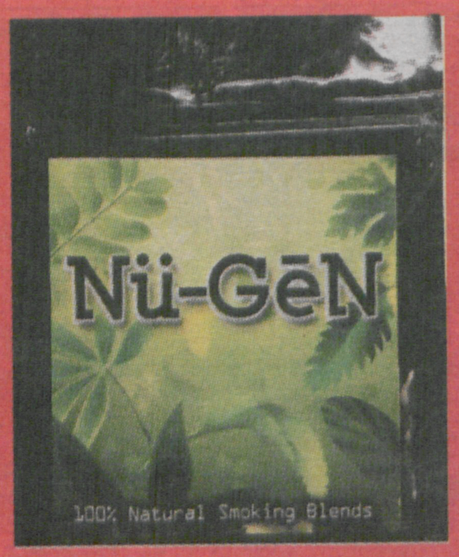

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